

Arthur Miall

18 Bouverie St. E.C.

THE Donconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XXIV.—NEW SERIES, No. 965.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 1864.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED 5d.
STAMPED 6d.

TO the ELECTORS of the BOROUGH of FINSBURY.

GENTLEMEN,—When, in 1861, many active and influential electors of your borough invited me to aspire to the honour of your suffrages, I cheerfully postponed my personal pretensions to the exigencies of public principle, in order that the Liberal interest might be united, reserving myself for an occasion when my candidature would not embarrass your choice. That occasion has arisen by the announcement of Sir S. Morton Peto of his intention not to seek a renewal of your confidence; and in response to numerous offers of support, and encouraged by the very kind and cordial reception I have met with from many of your body, whose advice I have already sought, I trust I shall not be considered premature in now intimating my intention of becoming a candidate to represent you in Parliament whenever the opportunity may present itself.

As education advances so ought the limits of the constitution to be enlarged; and believing, as the recent admirable conduct of the Lancashire operatives has abundantly proved, that considerable numbers of intelligent and industrious citizens, denied the possession of the franchise by the operation of the existing law, would, by obtaining it, become additional guarantees for the preservation of order, by being withdrawn from the possible ranks of popular disaffection, I would, therefore, cordially advocate an extension and enlargement of the franchise, not merely by a reduction in the value of the qualification as sanctioned by the House of Commons to 10*l.* in counties and to 6*l.* in boroughs, but would abolish the unnecessary distinction between the occupier of an entire house, and the occupier of part of a house. I would also confer the franchise upon all who contribute to the tax upon income. The subject who is admitted to the privilege of self-government can have no pretext for quarrelling with the laws made by his own representatives. I would rather freely and cordially invite than grudgingly concede.

The mode in which the representation is distributed is no longer in accordance with the intelligence and circumstances of the present time. and I am of opinion that more frequent opportunities should be given the constituencies of receiving an account of their stewardship from their representatives.

I believe the protection of the ballot, and by that I mean secret voting, to be necessary for the prevention of bribery and corruption, and also for the suppression of those no lesser evils, coercion and intimidation.

To be able to contribute to the revenue the people must first of all earn an income, and the happy experience of the past illustrates the wisdom of a resolute and fearless perseverance in the policy of free trade. Taught by a practical knowledge of commerce, I should support any measures tending to the further unfettering of industry or trade, and should devote particular attention to the consideration of existing or proposed laws affecting commercial, financial, and industrial transactions.

That liberty which is the foundation of our civil rights, and the life of our commerce, is also indispensable for the exercise of pure religion and the conservation of the rights of conscience. I have ever advocated the great principle of religious liberty, and that spiritual independence I claim for myself I should be prepared to vindicate for others. I am an advocate for the abolition of Church-rates, believing that their imposition is an infringement on the principle of religious liberty, and provokes unnecessary heartburnings and dissensions.

The present foreign policy of the Government has my cordial approval. I deeply deplore the war which is still dividing the northern portion of America into rival camps, yet the wise policy of non-intervention has, in the face of many provocations, averted the rupture of amicable relations with other nations. England has fought battles and gained victories without the costs and calamities of war. Her moral influence on the side of civil liberty and spiritual freedom has helped Italy to independence, mitigated oppression, promoted human progress and the cause of self-government, and has preserved for us the inestimable blessings of peace.

The efficiency of the public service is quite compatible with wise economy; and while providing for the peace and security of an empire upon which the sun never ceases to shed his rays, I will be the duty of the guardians of the public purse to enforce a searching and vigilant retrenchment in every administrative department. The sinews of war are also the pillars of peace. A surplus in the Exchequer has all the moral effect and material strength of a standing army and an efficient fleet.

While I am proud to own allegiance to the Liberal party, it shall never be as a blind partisan. I shall support a Ministry while it promotes civil, religious, and commercial freedom, retrenchment with efficiency, and peace with honour. I am not a Liberal merely because it is the creed of Ministers. I desire no higher distinction than to be the chosen and trusted servant of my fellow-citizens.

The industry and perseverance which, under the blessing of Providence, have acquired for me a position enabling me to devote an increasing leisure to the service of my fellow-countrymen, and the manner in which I have already performed the duties of not undistinguished offices, are, I trust, evidences of the assiduity and earnestness with which I should devote my energies not only to matters of imperial import, but to those vast and varied local interests of your borough requiring the possession and exercise of business habits almost as much as political knowledge.

It is of course not anticipated that I should personally canvass so large a constituency as that of Finsbury, but I hope and intend to avail myself of opportunities of meeting you, when I trust I shall find these sentiments, as well as those I entertain upon many other subjects, will be acceptable to a vast majority of your body, and I hope I shall be able to convince you that my professions are pledges, made, not to be forgotten, but to be redeemed.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your very faithful Servant,
ANDREW LUSK.

64, Westbourne-terrace, Hyde-park, April 25, 1864.

SOCIETY for the LIBERATION of RE- LIGION from STATE-PATRONAGE and CONTROL.

As the ACCOUNT for the current year will be CLOSED on the 1st of May, the Treasurer will be obliged by the early remittance of Subscriptions to appear with the next Annual Report.

The ANNUAL SOIREE will be held on THURSDAY EVENING, May the 5th, at FREEMASONS' HALL.

WILLIAM EDWARDS, Treasurer.

J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, Secretary.
2, Serjeants'-inn, Fleet-street, London.

SOCIETY for the LIBERATION of RE- LIGION from STATE-PATRONAGE and CONTROL.

THE ANNUAL SOIREE

Will be held at FREEMASONS' HALL, GREAT QUEEN-STREET, on THURSDAY EVENING, May 5th.

Tea will be on Table at Six o'clock, and

SAMUEL MORLEY, Esq., will take the Chair at Seven.

F. Doulton, Esq., M.P.; H. E. Crum-Ewing, Esq., M.P.; Henry Pease, Esq., M.P.; Rev. Francis Tucker; Rev. Dr. Edmond; Rev. Edward White; Rev. T. Arnold, of Northampton; Edward Miall, Esq., and other gentlemen, will take part in the Proceedings.

Cards of Admission—Single, 1*s.* 6*d.*; Double, 2*s.* 6*d.*—may be had of Heaton and Son, 42, Paternoster-row; Mead and Powell, 68, Chapside; Mr. Gooch, 55, King William-street, City; Bosher and Vernon, 14, G-swell-road; Mr. Stow, 4, Camberwell-green; and at the Offices of the Society, 2, Serjeants'-inn, Fleet-street.

SIXTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY of the RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY.

The Committee have much pleasure in announcing the following arrangements:—

On TUESDAY EVENING, May 3rd, a SERMON will be PREACHED in the Parish Church of St. MARY-LE-BOW, CHEAPSIDE, by the Rev. C. MILLER, D.D., Rector of St. Martin's, Birmingham, and Canon of Worcester.

On WEDNESDAY EVENING, a SERMON will be PREACHED at SURREY CHAPEL, by the Rev. WILLIAM ARNOT, A.M., of Glasgow, Minister of the High Free Church, Edinburgh.

Divine Service to begin on both occasions at Seven o'clock.

On FRIDAY EVENING, May 6th, the ANNUAL MEETING will be held at EXETER HALL. The Chair will be occupied by the Hon. Lord BENHOLME, one of her Majesty's Judges in the High Court of Judicature, Scotland; and the cause of the Society will be pleaded by THOMAS CHAMBERS, Esq., Common Serjeant of London; the Rev. C. CLAYTON, of Caius College, Cambridge; the Rev. J. B. LEIGHTON, Vicar of Bisham, Lancashire, and late Secretary to the North Indian Tract and Book Society; the Rev. S. MANNING, late of Frome; and Rev. J. H. TITCOMB, Incumbent of St. Stephen's, South Lambeth. The Chair to be taken at Half-past six precisely.

Tickets for the Annual Meeting to be had at the Depositories.

BRITISH and FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of this Society is appointed to be held at EXETER HALL, in the STRAND, LONDON, on WEDNESDAY, the 4th of May, at Eleven o'clock precisely.

Tickets of admission may be obtained at the Society's House, 10, Earl-street, Blackfriars, where attendance will be given from Wednesday, April 27, to Tuesday, May 3, for the purpose of issuing Tickets upon application, between the hours of Twelve and Four; on Saturday, April 30, from Ten to Two.

C. JACKSON, } Secretaries.
S. B. BERGNE, }

CHRISTIAN VERNACULAR EDUCA- TION SOCIETY for INDIA.

The SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING will be held in WILLIS'S ROOMS, ST. JAMES'S, on FRIDAY, the 29th of April, 1864.

The chair will be taken by his Grace the DUKE of ARGYLL, K.T., at Two o'clock. His Grace the LORD ARCHBISHOP of YORK; Rev. C. C. FENN, M.A., from Ceylon; Rev. W. ARTHUR, M.A.; and J. C. COLQUHOUN, Esq., will address the Meeting.

J. H. TITCOMB, M.A., Hon. Sec.
F. W. LOCKHART GORDON, Sec.

Offices, 7, Adam-street, Adelphi,
London, W.C.

SYSTEMATIC BENEFICENCE SOCIETY.

The Suffering of the Poor and how to relieve it.
The Salvation of the Lost and how to promote it.

ADDRESSES will (D.V.) be delivered in EXETER HALL, on WEDNESDAY EVENING, 4th MAY, by

The Rev. W. MORLEY PUNSHON, M.A.,

T. MAS IN JONES, Esq.,

The Rev. JAMES BARDLEY, M.A., of Manchester,

The Rev. JOHN HALL, of Dublin,

Hon. and Rev. B. W. NOEL,

The Rev. Dr. WADDY,

and the Rev. Dr. CATHER, General Secretary.

The Right Hon. the Earl of SHAFTESBURY (though not a member) will take the chair at Seven o'clock p.m.

Admission by Tickets, free, at Nisbet and Co.'s 21, Berners-street; S. W. Partridge, 9, Paternoster-row; and 7, Adam-street, Strand.

The ANNUAL SERMON will (D.V.) be Preached on TUESDAY EVENING, May 3, in JOHN-STREET CHAPEL, BEDFORD-Road (the Hon. and Rev. B. W. Noel's), by the Rev. JOHN HALL, of Dublin. Service to commence at Seven o'clock. A Collection will be made to Defray Expenses.

"I would earnestly urge on all the duty of aiding us by setting apart a stated sum from their income as God has prospered them."—Pastoral on Bishop of London's Fund, March 21.

THE ONE HUNDRED and NINETY- FIRST MAY-DAY LECTURE.

The ONE HUNDRED and NINETY-FIRST MAY-DAY LECTURE TO THE YOUNG will be delivered at STENEY MEETING (D.V.) by the Rev. JOHN KENNEDY, M.A., on LORD'S DAY, May 1st, 1864.

Service will begin at Three o'clock p.m.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

The ANNUAL BREAKFAST will be held at 165, ALDERSGATE-STREET, E.C., on FRIDAY MORNING, May 6th, 1864, at Six o'clock.

J. GURNEY HOARE, Esq., will preside,

And Addresses will be delivered by the Rev. William Arnot, of Edinburgh; Rev. H. J. Cummins, A.M., Rector of St. Alban's, Wood-street; Rev. T. W. Aveling, of Kingsland; Rev. Samuel Coley, of Camberwell; Rev. Charles H. Spurgeon, of the Metropolitan Tabernacle.

Tickets, 2*s.* each, may be obtained, until the 4th of May inclusive, of the Book Society, 19, Paternoster-row; Elliot Stock, 62, Paternoster-row; Williams and Lloyd, 29, Moor-gate-street; Dalton's, Cockspur-street; and, until the morning of the 5th of May, at the Offices of the Association, 165, Aldersgate-street.

THE TEMPORARY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH,

JUNCTION-ROAD, UPPER HOLLOWAY,

Will be OPENED on FRIDAY EVENING, April 29th, at Seven o'clock. The Rev. MARK WILKS, of Holloway Chapel, will PREACH a SERMON, and the Revs. J. VINER, J. CORBIN, J. FLEMING, and E. WHITE, will take part in the Service.

On SUNDAY, May 1st, the Rev. J. ANGUS, D.D., will PREACH in the Morning, and the Rev. R. VAUGHAN, D.D., in the Evening. Service will commence at Eleven a.m., and Half-past Six p.m.

☛ Collections will be made after each service, to defray the expenses of fitting up the building for Divine worship.

ABBEY-ROAD CHAPEL, ST. JOHN'S WOOD.

OPENING SERVICES.

On THURSDAY, May 5th, at Seven o'clock p.m., a COMMUNION SERVICE, presided over by the Rev. Dr. ANGUS, and in which various Ministers will take part. Members of other Churches are cordially invited.

On FRIDAY, May 6th, a SERMON will be PREACHED by the Hon. and Rev. BAPTIST W. NOEL, at Twelve o'clock a.m.

A Cold Collation will be provided in the Schoolroom at Two o'clock p.m., when addresses will be given by the Rev. Dr. HALLEY, and other Ministers. Sir S. MORTON PETO, Bart., M.P., has promised to be present if possible.

A Public Tea-meeting in the Evening at Half-past Five o'clock. The Rev. NEWMAN HALL will preach at Seven o'clock.

On SUNDAY, May 8th, SERMONS will be PREACHED—that in the Morning by the Rev. W. STOTT, at Eleven o'clock, and in the Evening by the Rev. HENRY CHRISTOPHERSON, at Half-past Six o'clock.

Collections on behalf of the Building Fund will be made after the above Services.

Tickets for the Collation, 2*s.* 6*d.*, and for the Tea, 1*s.* each.

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, HAVERSTOCK-HILL, N.W.

Instituted May 10th, 1758, for Children of Both Sexes, and from any part of the United Kingdom.

PATRONS:

Her Most Gracious Majesty the QUEEN.

His Royal Highness the PRINCE OF WALES.

A GENERAL COURT of GOVERNORS will be held on FRIDAY, next, April 29, at the LONDON TAVERN, BISHOPSGATE-STREET WITHIN, to Receive the Annual Report and the Auditors' Report; to Appoint the several Officers and Auditors for the Year ensuing; to alter Rules 18 and 24, by omitting the words "during the last week" before "in April," and before "in October"; and to ELECT TWENTY-FIVE BOYS and TEN GIRLS to the Benefits of the Charity.

The Chair will be taken at Eleven o'clock, and the Poll will be closed at Two precisely, after which hour no Votes can be received.

JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.

Office, 32, Ludgate-hill, London, E.C., March 9th, 1864.

Annual Subscription for One Vote, 10*s.* 6*d.*; for Two Votes, 1*l.* 1*s.*; Life Donation for One Vote, 5*l.* 5*s.*; for Two Votes, 10*l.* 10*s.* The Votes increasing in proportion to the Contribution.

Persons Subscribing on the Day of Election will be entitled to Vote immediately.

EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY

Now ON VIEW, "A Sunday Afternoon at Hampton Court in the Summer of 1685," painted by CHARLES LUCY. Open from Ten till Five.

EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.

Now ON VIEW, SELOUS' great picture of "The Crucifixion" (16 feet by 10), containing 300 figures, the city of ancient Jerusalem, with its temples, palaces, and public buildings, the Mount of Olives, and the Scenery round about (Mr. John Bowden's descriptive Lecture at Twelve, Two, and Four daily.) Open from Ten till Five.

EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.

Now ON VIEW, CARL WERNER'S Thirty Drawings of Jerusalem, Bethlehem, and the Holy Land. Open from Ten till Five.



APRIL 27,

THE NONCONFORMIST.

1864.

HOMŒOPATHY.—DR. EPPS will DELIVER A COURSE OF LECTURES, addressed to Ladies and Gentlemen, at Exeter Hall, London, on Monday evenings, the 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th May, 1864, at 8 o'clock. Tickets, admitting to all four Lectures, 3s., to any single Lecture, 1s. may be obtained of any Homœopathic Chemist, of Mr. Surman, Exeter Hall, or of Mr. Thos. Bourne, 48, New Oxford-street, W.C.

EDUCATION.—NOTICE of REMOVAL.—The Rev. OSWALD JACKSON begs to inform his friends that he has arranged to RESIGN his PASTORATE at Ringwood, Hants, at MIDSUMMER NEXT and will then (D.V.) REMOVE his EDUCATIONAL ESTABLISHMENT to a commodious House, surrounded by its Grounds of 15 acres, at Theobalds, Cheshunt, Herts. Further particulars in future advertisements.

TO DRAPERS.—For DISPOSAL, a good and increasing BUSINESS in the West of England. For particulars, enquire, Geo. Hitchcock and Co. Capital required about £1,000.

TO PARENTS and GUARDIANS.—WANTED, a respectable, well-educated, YOUTH, as an APPRENTICE to the DRAPERY and GROCERY TRADE. Premium required. Apply to Thos. Ransford and Co., Drapers and Grocers, Bourton-on-the-Water, Gloucestershire.

TO MINISTERS and OTHERS.—An Established LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, offering special and peculiar advantages to Insurers as well as liberal arrangements and privilege to Ministers and others, is OPEN to RECEIVE APPLICATIONS for LOCAL, DISTRICT, and PRIVATE AGENCIES. For terms and particulars apply to M. A., care of Mr. Arnold, 86 Fleet street, London.

WANTED, in a WHOLESALE and RETAIL CHEESE-MONGERY BUSINESS, a YOUTH, Fifteen or Sixteen years of age. Must write a good hand; quick at accounts; of a Dissenting family preferred; no premium required; will live in the house with the family. Address, A. B., "Nonconformist" Office.

TO DRAPERS and FANCY TRADES.—A YOUNG LADY, aged Twenty, is anxious to get an INSIGHT in the above, and would give twelve months of her time. Town preferred. Address, C. G., 24, Thavies-inn, E.C.

WANTED, at Midsummer, the MASTER-SHIP of a SCHOOL not under Government Inspection. The Advertiser has had considerable experience as Master in large Middle-class, Grammar, and National Schools. Trained and Certificated. Dissenter. Unexceptionable Testimonials and References. "Beta," Parkstone, Poole, Dorset.

COMMERCIAL SCHOOL, CRANFORD HALL, near HOUNSLOW, is conducted with special regard to the requirements of the Sons of respectable Tradesmen and Farmers.

Mr. VERNEY is assisted by experienced resident Teachers—English and Foreign. The Pupils are carefully trained in good habits, and fitted for active Business Pursuits. The premises are extensive, and contain every convenience; the situation is high and healthy; the food is of the best description and unlimited; and the terms are moderate. A Prospectus forwarded upon application; and Pupils admitted at any time.

THE REV. JOHN HILL, M.A., SOUTH-AMPTON, RECEIVES a few PUPILS for a thorough English and Classical Education. Students prepared for the Universities. Particulars on application.

HOSPITAL for SICK CHILDREN, 49, GREAT ORMOND-STREET, W.C. This Hospital is not Endowed, but is wholly dependent on Voluntary Contributions for support. FUNDS are urgently needed. F. H. DICKINSON, Chairman.

BANKERS: Williams, Deacon, and Co.; Messrs. Hoare; Messrs. Herries.

CLERICAL, MEDICAL, and GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY. 18, ST. JAMES'S-SQUARE, LONDON, S.W. Established 1824. Empowered by Special Act of Parliament.

CREDIT SYSTEM.—On Policies for the whole of Life, where the age does not exceed sixty, one-half of the Annual Premiums during the first five years may remain on credit, and may either continue as a debt on the policy, or be paid off at any time.

LOW RATES OF PREMIUM FOR YOUNG LIVES, with early participation in Profits; and considerably reduced rates for Assurances without participation in Profits, and for Term Policies.

ENDOWMENT ASSURANCES may be effected without profits, by which the sum assured becomes payable on the attainment of a specified age, or at death, whichever event shall first happen.

INVALID LIVES may be assured at Premiums proportioned to the increased risk.

PROMPT SETTLEMENT OF CLAIMS.—Claims paid thirty days after proof of death.

THE ACCOUNTS and BALANCE SHEETS are at all times open to the inspection of the Assured, or of Persons proposing to assure.

THE ASSURANCE FUND, already accumulated and invested on real and Government Securities, amounts to ONE MILLION THREE HUNDRED and EIGHTY SIX THOUSAND POUNDS.

THE REVERSIONARY BONDS at the Quinquennial Division in 1862 averaged 43 per cent., and the Cash Bonus 28 per cent., on the Premiums paid in the five years. The next Division of Profits will take place in January, 1867.

Tables of Rates and Forms of Proposal, and the last Report showing the financial position of the Society, can be obtained from any of the Society's Agents, or of

GEORGE CUTCULIFFE, Actuary and Secretary.

IMMEDIATE CASH ADVANCES.—Money Lent on Personal Security, Leases, &c.

SUMS from 100, to 8000, ADVANCED two or three days after application, for two years, one year, and six months (repayable by weekly, monthly, or quarterly instalments), and good bills discounted. Charges moderate, and strict confidence observed.

LONDON and PROVINCIAL LOAN COMPANY: Office, 297, Goswell-road, London. Office Hours, Nine till Four.

Forms of application and prospectus (gratis) on receipt of a stamped envelope.

H. FLEAR, Manager.

COLMAN'S GENUINE MUSTARD.

TRADE MARK.

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THE INDEPENDENT FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY (Limited).

Capital, One Million sterling, in 40,000 Shares of £25 each. £1 per Share to be paid on Application, and £1 10s. per Share on Allotment.

Calls not exceeding £1 per Share, at intervals of not less than three months.

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George Haines, Esq., Merchant, 36, Lombard-street.

John Inglelew, Esq., Cambridge House, Lee Park, Kent.

William Knight, Esq. (Messrs. William Knight and Co.), 88, Lombard-street.

Henry Ledgard, Esq., Forest-hill, Kent.

George S. Symons, Esq. (Messrs. G. S. Symons and Co.), 29 and 31, St. Dunstan's-hill.

John E. Tibbs, Esq. (Messrs. J. E. Tibbs and Son), Thread-needle-street, Director of the Staffordshire Rolling Stock Company.

James Lunham, Esq. (Messrs. James Lunham and Co.), 231, High-street, Borough.

Jabez Voss, Esq. (Messrs. Voss, Meek, and Co.), Billiter-square.

Walter Brodie, Esq., 13, Delamere-terrace, Hyde-park, late Member of the House of Representatives, New Zealand. (Influential names in Manchester and Liverpool will be immediately added to the Direction.)

BANKERS.

The Metropolitan and Provincial Bank, 79, Cornhill, E.C.

SOLICITORS.

Messrs. Bennett and Stark, 4, Furnival's-inn, Holborn.

SURVEYOR.

James Edmeston, Esq., F.R.S.A., Crown-court, Old Broad-street.

BROKERS.

Messrs. Scrutton and Son, 31, Old Broad-street.

AUDITORS.

Messrs. Cash and Edwards, Public Accountants, 13, Token-house-yard, E.C.

GENERAL AND RESIDENT MANAGER.

Mr. Robert Steers.

SECRETARY.

Mr. George Drew Hodges.

OFFICES.

29, Nicholas-lane, Lombard-street, E.C.

This Company has for its purpose the transaction of the important and remunerative business of FIRE INSURANCE, and that only, to the exclusion of other branches of business not unusually associated with it, under the same direction, and operating on one and the same capital. The Directors are satisfied that the scope for the business of Fire Insurance presented by this country and its dependencies is, as a commercial speculation, deserving of paramount attention; and the contract being one terminable annually, the profits or loss arising determine in like manner, year by year, and exhibit at once a company's financial position and its resources.

While the partial remission of the Fire Insurance Duty now in the contemplation of Government, and applicable only to the insurance of stock in trade, will afford a comparatively limited relief from the onerous oppression, the Directors have resolved to allow upon payment for every policy, and afterwards at each renewal, an immediate drawback, which, in many instances, will amount to a total extinction of the entire duty of three shillings per cent.

To the public at large, and to the greater portion of the manufacturing and mercantile community, this arrangement will prove a highly-acceptable advantage. The drawback allowed by a few of the older offices by way of percentage on premiums, at intervals of years, is of importance only to those who are rated at premiums ranging chiefly from one guinea per cent. upwards, and is participated in only by those who may have premiums to be renewed at the period of the making of these returns;—whereas by the principle adopted by this Company, the owners of the classes of risk of the more ordinary occurrence, are they who will be the more substantially, and at the same time promptly, benefited. The concession to be thus made to the public will certainly be the means not only of increasing in their respective amounts insurances now existing, but of multiplying to a very large extent the number of insurance contracts in this country and its colonial connections.

The insurable property in this kingdom alone, including its enormous and increasing importations, arising from the wise interchange of tariffs, is believed to approximate to £5,000,000,000; whereas £1,300,000,000 only is insured, thus leaving nearly three-fourths of the insurable amount altogether unprotected from loss. It would be difficult to find any class of investments which has yielded such large profits as the shares of well-conducted Fire Offices. The shares of the older offices have increased in value immensely, being, in one case, at a premium of about 1,500, and in another of nearly 2,000 per cent. on the sums originally paid up. The increased value of the shares of offices established within the last 20 years stands at from 80 to 200 per cent.

It is under these circumstances, and considering the immense field presented for operations to come, that the Directors have taken advantage of so favourable an opportunity to offer to the public the benefits of the principle of business now adopted by them; and they have every reason to believe that, by its special feature and the public support which that must necessarily invite, the undertaking will speedily be productive of the best monetary results. The executive will be entrusted to officers of tried experience in the business of Fire Insurance, and the Directors have already matured arrangements for the immediate establishment of 500 Agencies. The Directors desire to give the most unqualified assurance to the public that nothing of the nature of frivolous objections to a prompt and liberal settlement of claims for compensation will ever be entertained or countenanced by them.

Forms of application for Shares may be had at the Offices of the Company, or of the Brokers, Bankers, or Solicitors. In the event of no allotment being made, the deposits will be returned in full.

DEBENTURES at 5, 5½, and 6 PER CENT.—THE CEYLON COMPANY, LIMITED.

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Harry George Gordon, Esq.

George Ireland, Esq.

Duncan James Kay, Esq.

Stephen P. Kennard, Esq.

Patrick F. Robertson, Esq.

Robert Smith, Esq.

Sir S. Villiers Surtees.

MANAGER.—C. J. Braine, Esq.

The Directors are prepared to issue Debentures for one, three, and five years, at 5, 5½, and 6 per cent. respectively; they are also prepared to Invest Money on Mortgage in Ceylon and Mauritius, either with or without the guarantee of the Company, as may be arranged. Applications for particulars to be made at the Offices of the Company, No 12, Leadenhall-street, London, E.C. (By order) JOHN ANDERSON, Secretary.

BANK of NEW ZEALAND.

Incorporated by Act of General Assembly.

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CAPITAL, £500,000. RESERVE FUND, £80,000.

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This Bank grants Drafts on any of the above-named places in New Zealand, and transacts every description of Banking business connected with that Colony, on terms which may be learned on application at the London Office.

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All the Latest Styles in JACKETS and MANTLES, PAISLEY and SPRING SHAWLS.

A great variety of EMBROIDERED and BRAIDED MADE-UP DRESSES.

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"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

SYSTEMATIC BENEFICENCE.

WE have just entered upon the season consecrated by custom to the anniversary meetings of our various philanthropic and religious societies, when we take stock, as it were, of what may be called the extraneous produce of Christian willinghood during the preceding year. Extraneous, we say, because the normal operations of that active principle, whether in the dispensation of charity, or in the support of religious means and ordinances in this country, do not come into the account. We are in the habit of exulting in the marvellous and expansive energy of the Voluntary principle—and, looking at the magnitude of the sum-total expended upon "works of faith and labours of love," we are, perhaps, justified in extolling the sufficiency of that simple moving power for any conceivable work which may be assigned to it. But, as yet, we are but poorly acquainted with the enormous latent force which Christian willinghood might be trained to evolve. Even those amongst us who rely exclusively upon it for all their spiritual appliances and influence, have not yet reached a fair appreciation of its immense capabilities—and whenever the churches shall have fully developed them, it may be reasonably anticipated that the *vis vite* of "the glorious Gospel" will strike with astonishment, not merely those who have but little personal experience of its effects, but the vast majority of such as profess and attempt to give expression to its impulses.

Voluntaryism, or, in other words, giving to God of that which He has given to us, has hitherto been fitfully and desultorily exercised. Like every other great principle, it has its own laws of operation, and is only productive of all its results when it works in conformity with those laws. Fruitfulness in every department of the universe is the reward given to compliance with the will of the Creator as expressed in those regulations upon the observance of which He has made it to depend—and if we have hitherto realised but scanty harvests, we may be quite sure that it is because we have neglected some of the divinely prescribed conditions of sowing and culture. Two things are indispensable to the triumphant success of the Voluntary principle—first, system, and, secondly, system moulded upon the rules which have been given to us by Infinite Wisdom. We have been accustomed to give, even where the inclination to give has been fairly developed, according to our judgment of the claims brought before us, and, in most instances, according to the low and variable standard of conventional habits. What, now, if every man in whose heart there exists a desire to further the objects of Christ's kingdom among men, were to set aside a *fixed* proportion of his gains for that purpose? What if, instead of being guided by what other people do, or by the cases actually brought under his notice, he should put in store for God—that

is for helping on all movements which he believes to have God's sanction—a definite proportion of whatever accrues to him? What if that proportion never fell below the scale which seems to have commended itself to the adoption of most nations, namely, a tenth? And what if such storing were as periodic and frequent as convenience would permit—say, in obedience to apostolic injunction, once a week?

Without committing ourselves to details, or raising them to the rank of principles, we are persuaded that the training of the Christian world to "systematic beneficence," by whatever legitimate agency it may be effected, is a work most urgently called for in the present day—one that if wisely managed will be most successful—one in the success of which all the agencies of Christian love and zeal will proportionably share. And hence, as it is impracticable for us to plead with our readers on behalf of all the numerous institutions which, within the next six weeks, will present their respective claims to the public, we have resolved to select for notice that one which aims at a result from which every other may expect to derive permanent benefit. We allude to the Systematic Beneficence Society. It is a Society which, in the emphatic language of Sir Hugh Cairns, "is the rival of none, but the auxiliary of all. They do not seek to turn aside any part of the great stream of charity; but, on the contrary, to enlarge that stream, and to open up others, from which every charitable institution in the kingdom will derive benefit." We do not commit ourselves to all the recommendations of this Society, as in our judgment the wisest and the best—but we are deeply interested in the work it has undertaken, and, we are satisfied that, in the main, the doctrines it inculcates in reference to the duties of Christian willinghood, are as sound in their nature as, if prayerfully heeded, they will prove magnificent in their results.

The British Systematic Beneficence Society was established in April, 1860. Its special object is "to promote, by means of the press, the platform, and the pulpit, a sound and Scriptural public opinion in favour of, 1. Conscientious giving to God—2. Proportionate giving to God—3. Systematic giving to God." In pursuance of this object, the Society has zealously laboured during the last three years, "to encourage professing Christians to set apart a stated proportion—say, not less than a tenth—of their means and income for religious and charitable purposes; to induce them to adopt generally the system of 'Weekly Offerings' as suggested by the Apostle of the Gentiles:—'On the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him'; and to inculcate a sense of individual responsibility with regard to the wise and effectual application of our voluntary offerings to God." This application, it suggests, should have respect to, first, the support of ordinances, including ministry, sanctuaries, and books, &c.; secondly, the relief of distress, by physical, educational, and moral benefactions; and, thirdly, the extension of the Redeemer's kingdom in the world, by home, foreign, and international missions.

The Society will hold its third anniversary meeting on Wednesday evening next at Exeter Hall, and the chair will be taken at seven o'clock p.m. by the Earl of Shaftesbury, who, though not a member, will thus testify to the interest which he takes in the general object of the Society. We need hardly add that nothing but our deep devotion to the success of Christian willinghood has induced us to select this organisation for prominent notice in these columns. We are not connected with it, although for many years we have worked heartily towards the end at which it aims. We know little of its managers but by general repute, and we are bound to say that their names sufficiently guarantee the sincerity of its efforts. We hope, therefore, that those of our friends whose engagements will admit of it, will show their appreciation of an honest attempt to give efficiency to the workings of the Voluntary principle, by attending the

anniversary meeting, and giving countenance to this endeavour to exalt in public estimation a principle of religious action which has their emphatic approval. All great causes have, in their infancy, to confront discouragements. He does the best to promote their success who lends his aid when aid is most indispensable.

ECCLESIASTICAL NOTES.

WERE you ever, dear reader, in a storm at sea? And if you have been, do you not remember with peculiar distinctness the pride which, after a moment of great peril, you felt in your vessel? She may have shivered "from stem to stern"; every board in her may have creaked, and you may have seen, here and there, great yawning gaps made by the momentary parting asunder of the good old planks. That, singular to say, is the time when you least think of yourself or your fortune. You may be engulfed in another moment, and the last sound that you hear in life may be the terrific shrieking of the winds through the cords and ropes, and ladders and masts. You hear all this with a kind of second sense, as though somebody else, and not yourself, were hearing it, and you feel the most intense interest in the fate of the vessel. When that wave made her tremble, you wait to feel how long it is before she recovers what may be termed her self-possession; your ear carefully tracks the progress of the groaning and creaking of the wood as the sound travels from side to side or from one end to another; you consider whether the next shriek will be louder than the previous one; and at last you become almost absorbed in the future of the ship. And when, in the course of hours, she is left by the storm, you feel that you could wish her to assume a human shape and form, and to kiss her for her brave and gallant bearing.

This is a short parable. We are all, dear reader, in this very ship, and the storm is rising upon us. The winds are beginning to blow from all quarters of the heavens at once. North, south, east, and west, the clouds are marshalling like great battalions in the time of war. Thank heaven you are all gallant officers or good and able-bodied seamen, for the time of peril is coming upon you, and both your faith and your work will now be tried! In whatever direction we look we see the Church of England rousing herself to do battle against you; to snatch from you some right; to filch from you some privilege; to strengthen herself for future contests; to arm herself with new powers.

Look at the events and the literature of this week. In another column the meeting of the Church Institution yesterday is described. What a fleet, notwithstanding the deprecating words of the Bishop of London, is come up against you! And the purpose? To assail you in every parish in the kingdom. For this, Archbishops and Bishops, Deans and Archdeacons yesterday assembled, and their words were rapturously applauded. It was one of the most memorable meetings ever held in the metropolis, and its object is to thwart the Liberation Society. It was the CHURCH RAMPANT, and animated by the most resolute spirit she has shown for many a year. Look at the names! Are you afraid? Good captains are there amongst them, who have led the hosts of the Lord many a time to victory; but—they have now joined the Assyrians in battle, and therefore you need not be shaken. They will try to run you down or to override you. The titles alone ought, in all reason, to shame you into submission, but, somehow or other, fortune does not always follow titles. The last of the Plantagenets keeps, as Sir Bernard Burke informs us, "a 'pike' in Cornwall, and the last of the Lords spiritual may come to as humble and useful a fate. On the whole, we think we can bear the breeze that comes to us from Trafalgar-square.

Another attack takes the shape of Sir Roundell

Palmer's Bill. The admirable meeting at Fendall's Hotel yesterday afternoon is the proper counter-demonstration to this movement. It will be seen that a committee was appointed, and that arrangements are at once to be made to wait upon the members of the Government. Should the representations that will then be put forth fail of their effect, an appeal will at once be made to the country. This measure is simply an attempt to grasp at extended compulsory powers. It is another link in our chain. Being brought in by a Liberal Government (a Tory administration would never have dreamed of introducing such a measure), it may possibly be carried. We should regret this fact more for the sake of the Church than for ourselves. Oh, that she knew the true secret of spiritual strength and prosperity! On this measure will perhaps exercise a bracing effect. It will revive the Church-rate question anew in districts where it has not been heard of for a generation, and it will knit us more closely together. One of the best stimuli to action is a sense of injury, and we shall be astonished if, under this sense, the inhabitants of the district parishes do not rouse themselves to renewed exertions.

The article in the *Quarterly* of this month, on the Privy Council Judgment, is another sign. We have not space this week to give any sufficient summary of the contents of this paper, but its purpose is unmistakable. The principal conclusion drawn by the writer is that the Church needs another Court of Appeal. She is to be made less dependent on the civil power. The Queen in Council is to judge everything but the Church, which should be exalted to a kind of Protestant Papacy, endowed by the State, but not subject so much as is the case at present to her control. New powers and liberties are demanded. The Church-rate Bill is a power of persecution; this would be an extension of liberty.

It is evidently intended to carry this even farther. The vote of the Upper House of Convocation on the "Essays and Reviews," although only five to five, will repeat the experience on Hoadley and Whiston's books. The speech of the Bishop of London on this occasion will be read with interest, and we hope, admiration:—"Men," said the right rev. prelate, "had not faith enough to believe that God who had watched over the Church would continue to watch over it still, and they came forward with their petty and temporary devices, in order to kid God, which He was able to do well enough for Himself. It needed no synodical action of the two Houses of Convocation to make that more clear which they desired the faithful soul should find in the Formularies and in the Word of God. He must express his conviction that in quietness and confidence the strength of the Church of England lay in this age, and that persons in their high position should not be parties to the increase of an agitation which, he feared, had already done some harm."

And yet, look at the Church, as Mr. Mursell in his vigorous, eloquent, and comprehensive address to the Baptist Union, has looked at her. Is she in a condition to carry on, for any lengthened period, an offensive war? Is she in a condition to ask for more secular power? Read what Mr. Mursell has written, for his words are words of warning, encouragement, and strength. We have read, more than once, the whole of this address, and our readers will not regret to have twice brought under their notice the following thoughts:—

It is contrary to the reports of all history and utterly discordant with the experience of ages, that prolonged internal contentions should not unsettle and weaken the communities or institutions they disturb,—that contending policies and conflicting interests should not engender incongruities and consuming animosities, which are the forerunners of decay. Beside the fatal disease they feed and influence within, they inspire by degrees, distaste and aversion from without, so that spectators stand prepared for their overthrow. The hour may be delayed and the process be apparently slow, but the catastrophe is inevitable and such as no human strategy can avert. In the meantime, it is for us to hold fast the liberties we have won, to use all peaceful means to sweep away the petty tyrannies that remain, to substitute equality for toleration in all that relates to conscience and to right; and while labouring in the vineyard of the Great Master with increasing solicitude and care, and wishing "grace, mercy, and peace, to all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours," serenely to await the day, when, emancipated from all worldly policies, an unfettered Christianity shall summon the nations to liberty and life.

In other words, "Quit ye like men, and be strong."

THE CHURCH INSTITUTION.

Yesterday afternoon a very full and enthusiastic meeting assembled in St. James's Hall, under the presidency of his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, to give increased support to the operations of the Church Institution. Among others present on the platform were

noticed the Archbishop of Armagh; Bishops of London, Lichfield, Llandaff, and St. Asaph; Lord Lyttelton, Hon. J. Napier, and Mr. J. Beresford Hope. The meeting was opened with prayer, as we understood, by the Chaplain to the Institution. We shall better convey to our readers the general scope and object of the meeting by a brief sketch of the proceedings than by an abstract of the several speeches that were delivered, and we can thus more easily confine our report within those limits which our preoccupied space renders necessary.

Those who have indulged the hope that the members of the Church of England would themselves remedy those evils which have hindered, and still do hinder it, from properly fulfilling its high vocation, will find no ground for the encouragement of such a hope in the speeches of any of the gentlemen who addressed that assembly. With all its anomalies and confusion of doctrine, the Church of England is still the "purest in doctrine," the "Church of Christ," the "Catholic Church," the Church which is descended from the Apostles, and has an historical and Scriptural title to be considered as the depository of immutable truth. An Archbishop of Ireland is able to testify to the earnestness and zeal and love to her Master of the Church of Ireland, and moreover to represent her as "ill-paid," but "still contented." The Church is acknowledged to be in danger, but what danger? The discussion of questions of doctrine is proscribed, so what danger could be provided against but that which threatens the fabric and outworks of the Church? Such is defined to be the object of the Institution: to defend the outworks of the citadel, in order that leisure may be given for the development of the resources of the life and strength that lie within.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, who expressed great pleasure in presiding over this, the first meeting of the institution, briefly explained the main object which it was founded to secure. They had no concern with doctrine, and were of no party in politics or religion; they wished to embrace among their members all who were anxious to promote the welfare of the Church of England. Through their means 450 out of the 700 rural deaneries in England had been brought to organise meetings of clergy and laity for the discussion of matters relating to the Church, and it was their wish and aim to extend this work to the remaining deaneries. The Archbishop referred briefly to the efforts which were being made by those outside the Church to uproot the Establishment, but he thought that they were growing weaker and weaker every day. The Bishop of London too, referred to the attacks which Dissenters had made, and continued to make, upon the Establishment, but he would not have it understood that the Church of England was marshalling its forces to present a bold front to such a foe. He would not so exaggerate their influence and strength. He believed that if the vote of the majority of the Dissenters was taken, it would be found that they did not wish that the Church Establishment should be obliterated, for then they might fall into worse hands. On the ground too, of the maintenance of a common Christianity, he believed that they so valued the parochial organisation of the Church of England, as to feel that only evil would result from its downfall. He had heard that one prominent member of their (Dissenters') body had lately migrated to the Antipodes, and he should be glad if others saw it to be incumbent upon them to take a similar course, and then they might pursue their objects undisturbed.

The remarks which were made by Lord Lyttelton at a subsequent period, and a few words spoken at the close of the meeting by the chairman of the Executive Committee, indicated that whatever might be the estimate formed by the Bishop of London of the forces of the Liberation Society, the Institution was called into existence to defend the Church against its attacks, and that its future course of action would be taken altogether in reference to the movements of that Society. This was openly avowed by Lord Lyttelton, who said that the defensive operations of the Institution should be co-extensive with the assaults of the Liberation Society. So effectually do the Executive Committee hope to establish this system of defence, that in the words of their chairman, if an attack is made upon the Church in Land's-end, the telegraphic wires shall sweep the intelligence through the land, and the Church in Berwick-upon-Tweed shall lend her relief, and the attempts of opponents will soon be brought to nothing. Not only was the Church of England stoutly defended, but the Church of Ireland had also her champions, who were warmly applauded by the meeting. A resolution to the effect—"That this meeting most cordially welcomes the co-operation of the Archbishops and prelates of the Irish Church," was moved by the Right Hon. Mr. Napier, seconded by Mr. J. Beresford Hope, and unanimously carried by the meeting. Both these speakers maintained that the Church of England and the Church of Ireland were twin branches of the Catholic Church of Christ.

The Hon. Mr. Napier said, on behalf of the Irish Church, that they did not wish to survive the Church or the liberties of England, and Mr. Beresford Hope, on behalf of the English Establishment, said they would never abandon their sister Church. That man who for purposes of prudence or policy, would desert the cause of the Church of Ireland, and confiscate or re-settle her revenues, would be a coward, and unworthy of the name of a Churchman.

The practical aim of the meeting was to make the

institution representative of the Church throughout the land, and to bespeak for it the co-operation of lay and clerical members of the Church of England through the instrumentality of the 250 Rural Deaneries which yet stood aloof from it.

EXTENSION OF CHURCH-RATES.

An influential meeting, convened by private circular, of members of Parliament and the representatives of the various Nonconformist bodies in London, was held at Fendall's Hotel yesterday afternoon, for the purpose of deciding what measures it would be expedient to adopt to oppose, in its present form, the bill introduced into the House of Commons by Sir Roundell Palmer for the Consolidation and Amendment of the Church Building and New Parishes Acts. Sir Charles Douglas, M.P., was called to the chair, and there were present, amongst others, Mr. J. R. Mills, M.P.; Mr. Lawson, M.P.; Mr. Dillwyn, M.P.; Mr. Barnes, M.P.; Mr. Hadfield, M.P.; Mr. Hardcastle, M.P.; and Messrs. W. Edwards, H. R. Ellington, J. C. Williams (Secretary to the Liberation Society), T. C. Turberville, H. J. Preston, J. Clarke, W. Gover, A. Templeton, C. Shephard (Secretary to the Dissenting Deputies), C. Curling; Revs. J. H. Hinton, G. Gould, R. Ashton (Secretary to the Congregational Union), J. H. Millard (Secretary to the Baptist Union), N. T. Langridge (Secretary to the Church-rate Abolition Committee), &c.

Sir C. DOUGLAS having briefly stated that the object of the meeting was to consider what steps it would be desirable to take to prevent the levying, under the proposed measure, of Church-rates in district parishes,

Mr. J. CARVELL WILLIAMS then read a statement of the matter with which the meeting would be called upon to deal. It was stated in this paper that when Sir Robert Peel introduced the Church Building Act of 1823, he expressly disclaimed any intention of resorting to Church-rates as a means of sustaining the fabrics to be erected under it. Both that Act and subsequent Acts provide for the support of ministers, and the expenses of repairs, and of worship, by means of pew-rents, fees, and endowments; while the 9 & 10 Vic. c. 68, expressly declares that nothing contained in the act shall authorise any Church-rate for new burial-places provided under it. In 1850 a bill was brought in to afford facilities for the creation of independent parishes, and it was therein proposed that all new churches already built, and to be hereafter built, should be maintained by Church-rates. That proposal was resisted, as being inconsistent with the pledges previously given, and, as the result, an amended bill was introduced, and the clauses authorising the levy of Church-rates were omitted. In 1856, when the Marquis of Blandford brought in another Church-building Bill (19 & 20 Vic. c. 104), the present Home Secretary expressly stated that the noble lord "did not ask for any money from the public, nor to create a power to deal with any property not the property of the Church" ("Hansard," vol. cxi. p. 687); and subsequently, in reply to a question from Sir William Clay, "whether the clauses 1 and 2, in constituting separate parishes, would have the effect of conferring on those parishes the right of levying Church-rates," the Marquis replied that "he could state positively that would not be the effect of the clauses. The parishes constituted would, to all intents and purposes, resemble those formed by Sir Robert Peel's Act, under which it was known no Church-rates could be levied." Having faith in these assurances, Dissenters have offered no opposition to the passing of successive Church-building Acts, or to the division and subdivision of the ancient parishes; nor have they in any other way obstructed the efforts of Episcopalians to extend, by voluntary means, the influence of their Church. It appears, however, notwithstanding this, that Church-rates have been levied under these Acts; and Dr. Lushington, in the recent case of Gough v. Jones, has decided that there is nothing in the Acts to prevent the levy of a Church-rate. This decision has been appealed against, and if it should be confirmed, new parishes, as well as old, will have the power to levy rates. The necessity for a consolidation of the Church-building Acts was admitted, and it was stated that Dissenters had no motive for thwarting any effort to diminish the legal hindrances to church extension of which Churchmen have long complained; but it was submitted that the opponents of Church-rates have a right to insist that if Parliament re-enacts the Church-building Acts, it should, in doing so, give complete effect to its own previously-expressed intentions in the matter of Church-rates. The present bill, instead of doing this, made the law worse than it is now. The paper concluded as follows:—

The gravity of this subject will become apparent when it is remembered that upwards of 1,600 new parishes have been already created, and that the number is continually increasing. Unless, therefore, the legislature intervenes, it will be in the power of individuals to provoke in numerous new parishes those contests which have been felt to be so intolerable in the old parishes, that all parties admit the necessity for altering the

existing law. And to all those occasions of contention which have been furnished in the ancient parishes, there will be added the bitterness of feeling arising out of the fact, that a fraud has been practised on those who, on the strength of Parliamentary declarations, supposed to be binding, have allowed private individuals or public societies to provide new places of worship, the support of which is to add to the burden of parochial taxation. If the total abolition of Church-rates cannot be as yet secured, a Liberal Government ought not knowingly to be a party to an extension of the system. But without a decided expression of public opinion on the point the alteration required in the bill is not likely to be made; inasmuch as the select committee to whom the bill was referred last session refused to entertain the subject. For the honour of the House of Commons, and the honour of the Liberal party, it is essential that the Church-building Acts should not be re-enacted without placing it beyond all question that under them no rates can be levied for churches in newly-created parishes.

Mr. MILLS, M.P., in moving a series of resolutions in which the above facts were recapitulated, remarked that the bill was drawn by an acute lawyer, Mr. Stephens, and that it had one object, to make Church-rates imposed in district parishes binding in law. Last session the matter was brought under the notice of Sir G. Grey, who admitted that the Acts referred to were passed on the faith that no Church-rates should be levied under them. This bill was backed by no petitions, and no one had asked for it. It was brought in by High Churchmen for their own purposes. It was a monstrous injustice that people should build churches and then compel others to keep them in repair. The operation of this Act would be to put the whole of the pew-rents into the pockets of the clergy, and make the parishioners keep up the churches. He suggested that a deputation should wait upon the Prime Minister and make a representation to him.

Mr. H. J. PRESTON seconded the adoption of the resolutions. He thought it was time to make a firm stand on this question. Church-rates had been expressly excluded from those Acts, but the animus of this measure was to put additional burdens on Dissenters. The country should be thoroughly agitated on the subject, and he believed that the sympathies of a large number of Churchmen would be with them.

Mr. DILLWYN, M.P., said he should be glad to co-operate in this movement, but in opposition to the last speaker, he thought there was a large number of Churchmen, especially in the present House of Commons, who would be glad to see Church-rates re-imposed over the whole country.

The resolutions were then put and carried unanimously.

Mr. BARNES, M.P., moved, and Mr. LAWSON, M.P., seconded, the appointment of a committee to carry out the resolution of the meeting. Mr. BARNES said he believed that if the House could be convinced that the bill was a breach of faith, it would not be allowed to pass. The committee appointed is a numerous and influential one, and embraces the various sections of Dissenters.

Mr. W. EDWARDS moved that a deputation should wait upon some members of the Government on this question. It was one of extreme importance, for no fewer than 1,600 parishes would be affected by it.

A discussion then took place upon the actual operation, in district parishes, of the present law. Amongst those who addressed the meeting were—the Rev. R. Ashton, Mr. Mills, Mr. H. E. Ellington, and Mr. Carvell Williams. The latter gentleman stated that attempts were being made in many new districts to make rates.

The form in which the deputation should wait upon the Government was then discussed, the Rev. G. Gould expressing his opinion that it would be advisable, as an act of courtesy, to wait upon Sir Roundell Palmer. He had great confidence in the high personal character of the Attorney-General, and that he would not lend himself to any backhanded law. The meeting was further addressed by Sir C. Douglas, Mr. Curling, Mr. Hadfield, Mr. Elt, the Rev. J. H. Hinton, and others. The Rev. R. Ashton then moved, and Mr. Hardcastle, M.P., seconded, a vote of thanks to the chairman, and the assembly separated.

LIBERATION MEETING AT HANLEY.

The friends of the Liberation Society in Staffordshire held a *soirée* in the Town Hall, Hanley, on Thursday evening, and about 250 Nonconformists from various neighbouring places, including the Potteries, Newcastle, and Leek, were present. Tea was first partaken of, and then a dessert of fruit, fancy biscuits, &c., was placed upon the tables. The president of the evening was Mr. W. Martin, of Cauldon place, and on the platform, in addition to several local Dissenting ministers and laymen, were the Rev. H. W. Parkinson, of Rochdale, and Mr. E. Miall.

The CHAIRMAN, in the course of his opening speech, said he thought it might be taken as an open question as to how far, having regard to all the circumstances of the case, the State might have contributed to the influence and power of the Church of England as a purely religious institution. This was a problem he would not attempt to solve. But he had the strongest conviction that if the patronage and protection of the State ever were useful to the Church, it had not only ceased to be so now, but was an incubus and a curse. (Applause.) This was not merely the opinion of friendly Dissenters, but of a very large and influential party in the Church itself. At that very moment the Church of England was torn and distracted on questions of policy and discipline, and chafed under the restraints of

Parliament, law-courts, and public opinion. The Church of England was powerless to assert its own supremacy within itself, and had to supplicate protection from those outside her pale. Now to his mind there was no proposition clearer than this—that every Christian church ought to possess within itself the absolute and unquestioned power of administration and discipline, without the interference of any other body. This the Church of England, as at present constituted, could not do. So long as she insisted upon the support and protection of the State, to the exclusion of all other churches—so long as she insisted upon forced contributions from unwilling people—so long as she excluded Dissenters from her colleges, so long would those who patronised and those who were made to pay insist upon controlling her action and opposing her discipline. (Hear, hear.) His own conviction was, that could she throw off the fetters of the State and become the free Church of a free people, she would become, under God, the mightiest instrument in His hands for the regeneration of mankind the world has ever seen. (Applause.) To accomplish this was one of the objects of the Liberation Society.

The Rev. R. H. SMITH, Hanley, moved the first resolution:—

That, in the opinion of this meeting, the existence of Church Establishments is incompatible with the existence of religious equality, and the meeting is further of opinion that the interests of religion would be promoted, and those of Established Churches also, if those churches were self-supported and self-governed like other religious bodies.

Mr. Smith spoke for some time upon the social inferiority of Dissenters, illustrating his position by saying that on the occasion of the inauguration of the Wedgwood statue the health of "The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese" was drunk, but Dissenting ministers were not recognised in the programme. On that occasion, however, he took occasion to say that the principal portion of the inhabitants of the Potteries dissented from the Establishment; that the great man whose name was that day honoured was not a member of the Church of England; that the history of the state of the Potteries when he lived showed that neither the bishop nor the clergy of the day were doing much for the district; and that if any name ought to have been recalled by the toast it ought to have been the name of Wesley. (Applause.) He added that he took, however, higher ground in being a Dissenter, and argued that the existence of an Established Church was fatal to Christian union and to the advancement of the Christian religion.

The Rev. H. W. PARKINSON seconded the proposition. In reply to the argument that the connection of the Church with the State was necessary to the propagation of religion, he said that during the first three centuries of the Christian era the Church was free from all connection with the State; that that connection had always been detrimental to the growth of vital godliness in a nation; that the Church of England during the reign of Queen Anne and the earlier monarchs of the House of Brunswick was sunk in deadness and formality; and that the revival of religion was owing to the labours of men outside her communion, in the fruits of whose labours, however, the Church of England never failed to claim a very large share. He contended that the bishops had been the opponents and not the friends, as had often been alleged, of civil, religious, and commercial liberty, supporting the statement by saying that twenty bishops voted against the emancipation of the Catholics, and one in favour; twenty-one against the Reform Bill, and two in favour; and nine against the repeal of the Corn Laws. After noticing the abuses of the Irish Church, Mr. Parkinson shortly afterwards concluded by saying, that the truest and best friends of the Church of England desired to see her free from the trammels of the State. (Applause.)

The Rev. R. M'ALL briefly supported the motion. He was firmly convinced that the interests of true religion would be promoted if the connection between the Church of England and the State were immediately severed. If he felt that the principles of the Liberation Society were likely to be injurious to the highest interests of that Church, he could not as a Christian man stand there as their advocate; but, believing that "in keeping God's commandment there was great reward," he gave the society his cordial support. (Applause.)

Mr. MIALL (who was received with loud applause) then moved the following resolution:—

That the meeting regards it as a duty incumbent upon the friends of religious equality to make early preparation for a general election, and is of opinion that in the use of the elective franchise they should be governed, to a greater extent than they have yet been, by a determination to secure the legislative recognition of their principles.

He said that all the Liberation Society asked for was that religion should be treated as a spiritual and not a political thing, and that Dissenters should stand upon an equal footing with their fellow-citizens. For the purpose of illustrating his position that a state-supported religion was an anomaly and a grievous evil, Mr. Miall supposed, as a parallel case, that the medical profession had been established and paid by the State, and argued at length upon the supposition. He then said that the functions of the civil government ought to be limited to the administration of justice between man and man and the protection of the whole community from external aggression and danger, but the establishment of a State Church was, he contended, inconsistent with the equal administration of justice. He next said that there could be no greater nuisance than the sharp line of demarcation which was drawn in every town and village in the kingdom between those who belonged and those who did not belong

to the State Church. This state of things, he was sorry to say, had too long been tolerated by Dissenters; and he then concluded by appealing to those present to use their utmost exertions to return to Parliament only such men as were pledged to the principles of religious freedom and equality. But some objected to this course being pursued.

They did not like them to meddle with Church Establishments—they did not like them to take the Church from under the protection and patronage of the State—they did not like them to separate the Church of Christ from laws which were made by those whom we sent to Parliament as our representatives. They thought that Parliament ought to have a supreme voice in deciding upon the spiritual amount of provision made for the population. Yet they objected that they should send those representatives to Parliament who had religion in their view and in their mind when they sent them there. He hoped they saw the sophistry and inconsistency of that position—it was one thing to talk and another thing to practise. He would not say anything about the boroughs in that locality—he dared say there was a great deal of virtue in them—(a laugh)—but somehow or other it did not always show itself. In that respect he did not know that there was any great difference between these boroughs and some others which would be mentioned. This, he feared, must be admitted, that Dissenters holding the principles he had endeavoured to explain, had usually gone to the poll with those principles in their pockets. They had served almost any master before their Divine Master. At this moment they, as Dissenters, were not sufficiently educated up the mark to stand up for their principles. He did not mean that they were not to elect Churchmen—he did not hope to see Dissenters in Parliament. He would just as soon that they should be Churchmen if they understood their ("Liberation") principles, and were fond of them. (Laughter.) A Churchman might understand their principles and be fond of them too. For it was not the difference between their theological creeds that separated them, nor the differences between their forms of worship, nor their respective ecclesiastical systems—that which separated them was this, that on the one side there was a professed determination to have the patronage and protection and interference of the State in the management of Christian institutions, on the other side the principle was this, that all Christian institutions were meant for the cultivation, extension, and propagation of spiritual life, therefore the magistrate could not interfere by law without spoiling and damaging the cause he professed to sustain. This might be believed by men who sincerely believed in the Church as well as by Dissenters. It might surprise some to hear that one of the most decided anti-State Churchmen he knew was one of the most attached friends of the Establishment that perhaps could be met with in this country, and though he was surrounded, inundated, by Church influences on every side, he was faithful among the faithless, a noble and splendid example to those who were placed in the same favourable position for showing honour to their own principles. Now, let them do something in this way—wisely, for the children of the world were wiser in their generation than the children of light, but above all things let them do it, and not pretend to do it wisely when they were not doing it at all. The grand thing was to take up this matter as a matter of Christian responsibility and duty, and apply it to their honest judgment as the best mode in which they could forward politically the end they had in view. Having determined in their own judgment as to how best the end might be promoted, stick at no sacrifice, no self-denial, in order that the object might be fairly attained. Oh, that they had a few Garibaldis here—men who could despise the little temptations of this life in order to work out the grand principles that had come into their souls and taken possession of them. It was what they professed to do; but what a few of them did it! This was the object intended by the resolution he had put before them.

Mr. MACINTYRE, in seconding the resolution, also made an earnest appeal to the Liberal electors to act harmoniously and conscientiously, and said that it was intended to bring forward two Liberal candidates at the next election. (Applause.) He was glad to say that up to the present time Mr. Grenfell had invariably taken the Liberal side on ecclesiastical questions, and he believed that the more they knew of him the more liberal they would find him. (Applause.) It was he who, to the mortification of certain gentlemen, took upon himself to couple with the toast of "The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese," at the Wedgwood statue inauguration luncheon, the "Ministers of all Denominations"—(applause)—and he (Mr. Macintyre) could not help remarking that the latter portion of the toast was omitted from the programme prepared for the dinner given to Mr. George Baker last Tuesday, but he took care that the mistake was rectified before the banquet took place. (Applause.)—The Rev. S. B. SCHOFIELD then moved the following resolution:—

That the meeting regards with much satisfaction the results of the Liberation Society's past operations, and desiring that its proceedings should be carried on with increased energy, pledges itself to afford to the society its heartiest support.

He said that if the Liberal leaders would not bring forward the right sort of men at the next election, they might whistle for the votes of the Dissenters. (Laughter and loud applause.)

Mr. T. PIDDICK seconded the proposition, and said that while they could hardly expect every Liberal candidate to go for the separation of the Church from the State, they ought to be prepared to vote for the total abolition of Church-rates and generally to support the Liberal side on all ecclesiastical questions. He trusted the time would come, and he believed there were already signs that it would, when Churchmen would ask Dissenters to help them to make the Church free. (Applause.)

A vote of thanks to the chairman and to Messrs. Miall and Parkinson, proposed by Mr. F. BODLEY, and seconded by the Rev. J. MEDICRAFT, who expressed his entire sympathy with the Liberation movement, was then passed and acknowledged, after which the proceedings terminated.

MONTGOMERYSHIRE.—On Monday, the 18th inst., Mr. George Kearley delivered a lecture in the Public Hall, Newtown, on "The Liberation Society: what it wants, and why it wants it." The chair was taken by John Norton, Esq., a Wesleyan, an early and attached friend of the society. The Revs. O. H. Derby and T. Adams subsequently took part in the proceedings, and the meeting closed with a very cordial vote of thanks to the lecturer. On Tuesday, the 19th, Mr. Kearley repeated his lecture in the Town-hall, Welshpool, Mr. Alderman Parker in the chair. At the close of the lecture, S. Powell, Esq., a Churchman, proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Kearley for his able and instructive address, and expressed his regret that there were not more Churchmen present to hear it. Mr. Councillor Ellis Jones seconded the motion, which was carried by acclamation, as was also a vote of thanks to the chairman, who expressed his desire that the lecture might be published in the form of a tract. He believed that if Churchmen understood the object of the society better, they would very generally approve of it. On Wednesday, the 20th, Mr. Kearley lectured at the Sarn, Kerry, when a large and most attentive audience assembled from many miles around to hear the first exposition in that neighbourhood of the principles and objects of the Liberation Society. Edward Davies, Esq., of Trefeen, presided, and after the lecture, the Rev. Mr. Williams and Mr. E. Stephens took part in the proceedings. On Tuesday, the 12th, Mr. Kearley lectured in the British School, Oswestry, J. F. Whitridge, Esq., in the chair.

THE ANNUAL SOIREE OF THE LIBERATION SOCIETY.—This meeting is to be held to-morrow (Thursday) week, at Freemasons' Hall, and in our advertising columns will be found an announcement of the arrangements. It will appropriately follow the meeting of the Church Institution held last night, and for that reason, as well as from the number of important events which have of late occurred in the Church Establishment, the speakers at Freemasons' Hall will have an ample supply of new topics for the illustration and enforcement of the society's principles. As the past year has been one which has brought to the Executive Committee of the society much labour, involving more than common responsibility, we hope that they will on this occasion be cheered by the attendance of a large body of their metropolitan supporters.

CONVOCAATION.

On Wednesday morning both Houses reassembled at Westminster for the despatch of business.

A deputation from the Lower House, consisting of the Very Rev. Dr. Stanley (Dean of Westminster), the Dean of Ely, Canon Selwyn, and other gentlemen, brought up a *gravamen*, signed by forty members of the Lower House, urging that synodical judgment should be passed on "Essays and Reviews." Some questions having been put by the Archbishop as to the circumstances which had called forth the *gravamen*, the deputation withdrew.

[It appears that Dean Stanley did not sign the *gravamen*, and was a member of the deputation simply because he was the *pro tem.* President of the Lower House.]

ESSAYS AND REVIEWS.

The Bishop of OXFORD, in a lengthened speech, supported this appeal.

The course of the recent suit had settled that the powers of the court which disposed of it, of inquiring into charges of unsound teaching, were limited to certain specific propositions expressly contradicting other specific propositions contained in the Articles and Formularies of the Church. They had no means of travelling beyond that court, no means of interpreting passages by contexts, although they had the power of referring to the context to explain away the charges preferred. They had no power to refer to God's Word, to the doctrines of the Holy Catholic Church, or to the six General Councils, as to what had been considered the rule of heresy in this realm of England, but were limited strictly by the letter of the formularies. Therefore they were reduced to this point of consideration—that the Church of England had no means of ascertaining whether the teaching of a clergyman was sound or unsound except by propositions or extracts, which the court could only judge of by the letter of the Articles and Formularies. Thus, any false teaching developed in the Church must remain unrebuked, except through the Articles, which were drawn up from time to time to meet other errors. The particular error under consideration they were totally unable to reach. If they rested content with the power of criminal convicting for error of doctrine in the courts of law, the power of the Church, as a Church, for protesting against forms of false doctrine, was gone. But as he believed the great Provincial Synod of the country afforded an escape from this, he should regard such a decision as had recently been given of the gravest importance to their common Church. He believed that it was the direct right of that synod to take into consideration books which appeared to contradict the truth, so that they might see a way in which the minds of the faithful might be cleared in reference to false doctrine by the grave and wise action of the synod. He did not believe that there was any doubt in the minds of their Lordships as to the power of the synod to proceed in the matter.

It was not for frowning down opinion or stifling inquiry that he thought action should be taken by Convocation. But the Church, as a Church, having a definite faith, gave clergymen the power of teaching upon

conditions, the leading condition being that they had satisfied themselves of the correctness of that faith, and bound themselves by subscription to teach that faith, and that they were precluded from teaching what was contrary to that faith. The Church had a right to demand that they should show that it was not a mere adoption of old words, but a living reality, capable of being brought into action when required, saying that when the teacher's office was abused that such was not her teaching.

This might be done by new Articles; but the reasons against the adoption of such a course he need not explain. It might be done by new declarations, which he thought would be equally open to objection; but if it could be shown to the faithful laity, who believed that if the Church admitted her clergy to teach error it was the loss of one of the principal notes of membership, that such was not the case, their minds would be set at ease, because the Church, through Convocation, would say, "No; we condemn these errors." If such a course were to be taken by the Church, it must be taken by some body in an authoritative form; and that synod in which their Lordships were assembled would be an authoritative utterance, an utterance which, he believed, would tend, in the minds of many, to re-establish a faith which had been previously shaken.

The discussion was adjourned, and resumed again at Thursday's sitting.

The Bishop of ST. DAVID'S, in opposing the course recommended, said it was perfectly unnecessary, and would not and could not answer the purpose alleged for it.

To him, practically, the whole subject resolved itself into two points on which the recent judgment dwelt. If they thought it necessary to take action, it would, he thought, be much better to put their names to the Declaration as a united body. The Declaration referred to two doctrines which it was alleged were held by the Church of England and Ireland, but a difference must be drawn between a doctrine of the Church and an opinion extensively prevailing in the Church; and he could not reconcile the Declaration with the high character of those who sent it out. Every deacon—every literate, or illiterate, for they too often meant the same thing—even the youngest man admitted into holy orders, was called upon to express his opinion on a subject which had occupied some of the ablest, most learned, and most intellectual minds that could be brought to the consideration of it during the last ten years. Was this young deacon asked for the love of God to review the proceedings of this great case from the time when it first went to the Court of Arches till it left the Judicial Committee? No, they did not require that, but simply to add his name. For what purpose? Was it supposed that the name of this young deacon would add any weight to what had been advanced by Dr. Pusey? If Dr. Pusey could not be an authority in such a case, would be the name of this young deacon add anything to his authority? He could not consider that the number of names appended to the Declaration (the last report he heard was that they amounted to 12,000) as of much weight. On the contrary, he considered them in the light of a row of figures preceded by a decimal point. The Declaration was a sort of moral torture, for the adjuration employed implied that unless persons appended their names to it they were wanting in love to God and the souls of men. If such were the objects of the framers of the Declaration he thought they were entirely unworthy of their high characters—objects which he conceived were worthy of the severest reprobation. His lordship proceeded to show how closely the Declaration was connected with the Bishop of Oxford's motion, and expressed his opinion that it was impossible for them to say that the Judicial Committee of Privy Council held one doctrine and that the Church held another. If that opinion were entertained, something must be done to alter the acknowledged standard of doctrine in the Church.

The Bishop of LLANDAFF said it appeared to him that the judgment of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council distinctly stated that they were not competent to express an opinion on the character, effect, and tendency of the book, and that was exactly what the Bishop of Oxford's motion called on them to do.

The Bishop of LONDON would review for a moment what had taken place since the volume of "Essays and Reviews," which had caused most natural excitement.

Nearly four years ago the book was published, and answers were given to it which he considered perfect. Two of the bishops (Gloucester and Ely) had treated two of the subjects, and had treated them in such a manner as might have been expected from their well-known characters, sound religion, and extensive knowledge. He thought that the course which their Lordships adopted three or four years ago was the right course, that of deliberately expressing their opinion of the book, and it would be a lame thing if, after all they had done, they should adopt the Bishop of Oxford's motion, which would do more harm than good. The result of the appointment of such a committee would, he believed, render necessary a new edition of the book. If the motion now before them was not to prevent the book from doing harm, was it to prevent the decision of the Judicial Committee from doing harm. He deprecated any member of the Lower House drawing up a *gravamen*, getting it signed, and then obtruding it upon their Lordships' House. He protested against such dictation.

He felt sure that if it were put to the whole of the Lower House, they would reject the *gravamen* on which the Bishop of Oxford's motion was founded.

The Bishop of OXFORD said the power of sending up a *gravamen* was one of the dearest privileges of the Lower House. It was parallel to the right of petitioning in this country. By such words as he had used, the Bishop of London was seriously interfering with the liberties of the Lower House; and when he considered that the particular *gravamen* was signed by forty gentlemen, including deans, archdeacons, and leading proctors, he thought the circumstance must have escaped the Bishop of London's attention when he made the statement.

The Bishop of LONDON was much obliged to the Bishop of Oxford for putting him right, but did not believe he was wrong. He knew that those *gravamina* were petitions, but they were no more acts of the Lower House than petitions were of the House of Commons. This was only the petition of certain individuals. He believed the public did not know that, and he wished them to know it. He thought it would be extremely unwise on the part of that House to proceed to action on a paper so little worthy of attention as this *gravamen*.

He deeply regretted that the Bishop of Oxford should have founded a motion upon such a paper as the report of "Essays and Reviews," which came from the Lower House—which was, in fact, the report of one individual. Of all the foolish productions it had ever been the misfortune of controversy to call out, this was the worst, and was more calculated than anything he had ever seen to injure the Christian faith, inasmuch as it consisted of extracts from the volume in parallel columns with extracts from the Articles and Formularies of the Church. The that document was committed to the flames the better. He objected to the course proposed by the Bishop of Oxford, because his motion was more or less connected with this *gravamen*, which he did not wish to consider of more importance than it really was; 2, because it referred to the resolution by no means binding under totally changed circumstances; 3, that it necessitated the disintering from the dead of an unfortunate paper (the report of the Lower House), which he most sincerely hoped no intelligent layman of the Church had ever seen. What would be the result of the committee if it were appointed? They would be asked to pronounce a synodical judgment. He presumed that judgment must be judicial. Unless it were so, it would be perfectly nugatory. If the motion meant anything, it meant that their Lordships must proceed judicially,—if it meant nothing, there was no great harm in it. Suppose he was mistaken in this, and they could get a judgment different from that which had already been obtained, what would be the result of it? They might regret the decision of the Judicial Committee of Privy Council, but it would be utterly impossible for that House of Convocation to overrule it. The Right Rev. Prelate having stated that these proceedings tended to the establishment of a new article of faith, said that in all these difficult matters it seemed to him to be nothing more dangerous than the feeling that was apt to come over men's minds that it was necessary to do something. Men had not faith enough to believe that God who had watched over the Church would continue to watch over it still, and they came forward with their petty and temporary devices, in order to aid God, which He was able to do well enough for Himself. It needed no synodical action of the two Houses of Convocation to make that more clear which they desired the faithful soul should find in the Formularies and in the Word of God. He must express his conviction that in quietness and confidence the strength of the Church of England lay in this age, and that persons in their high position should not be parties to the increase of an agitation which, he feared, had already done some harm. It was a most painful thing that every deacon throughout the country had been called upon to subscribe that melancholy Declaration. He rejoiced to know that the clergy of the diocese of London, who were behind no others in intelligence and zeal, had maintained their calmness throughout all the recent storms. He did not think the Church was in danger because the highest Court of Appeal had said that a clergyman was not legally liable because he held that statements with regard to physical science in the Bible were not the inspired Word of God, nor did he believe that the Church was in danger because a clergyman might think that God in His infinite mercy might find a means of escape for lost souls. He believed the judgment gave no real cause for alarm.

The Bishop of LINCOLN must vote against the motion, without, however, sympathising with many of the reasons which had been urged by the Bishops of London and St. David's. He would rather that the book sought to be condemned should fall into oblivion.

The Bishop of LICHFIELD said he could not vote for the motion. He believed that the faith of the Church had been unshaken by the book, and that the faith of the Church would not be strengthened by any censure.

The Bishop of SALISBURY thought there must be some duties attached to their office as defenders of the faith. He heard on all sides that men's faith was shaken, and he had reason to believe that evil results had taken place in the Universities.

The Bishop of ELY, though sympathising very much with the Bishop of Oxford in many things, could not vote in favour of the motion. He considered that the faith of the laity had been shaken, not by "Essays and Reviews," but by the controversies of the clergy.

The Bishop of GLOUCESTER and BRISTOL supported the motion.

The Bishop of OXFORD denied having urged the adoption of a new article of faith.

The Archbishop of CANTERBURY said he could not see why, if they could express their opinions individually on the book, they could not express them collectively.

Their Lordships then divided—

For the Bishop of Oxford's Motion (5).—Bishop of Oxford, Bishop of Llandaff, Bishop of Salisbury, Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, and Bishop of Bangor.

Against it (5).—Bishop of London, Bishop of St. David's, Bishop of Lichfield, Bishop of Lincoln, and Bishop of Ely.

The Archbishop of CANTERBURY, the numbers being equal, gave his casting vote in favour of the motion, and a committee consisting of all the Bishops of the province were appointed.

Their Lordships then adjourned.

DIOCESAN SYNODS.

In the Lower House on Wednesday there was a long discussion on the proposal for Diocesan Synods.

Canon WORDSWORTH strongly advocated their restoration. In the course of his remarks he said:—

Many things were tending towards unchristianising the State; the bonds between Church and State were being weakened and severed every day. Let them fall back, then, on the sacred principle of Church polity. When forsaken and abandoned by the secular arm, let them revert to spiritual influences, and see the necessity of receiving in a friendly embrace the outstretched hand of a faithful laity. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. Dr. JEBB expressed strong constitutional objections to the motion in a long and learned speech.

The Rev. Chancellor MASSINGBERD expressed some doubts of the practical use of diocesan synods. The old synods had the power to enact canons; but now, when all the doctrines of the Church were confirmed by act of Parliament, it did not appear to him that any canon of a diocesan synod could be made applicable to any subject that might be brought before them.

The Rev. Sir HENRY THOMPSON warmly advocated the motion. He had been in holy orders many years, and had come to love the Church of England more and more the longer he had lived, but he also became more and more sensible of the weakness of the executive power of the Church—that weakness being the utter powerlessness of the Bishops. While reform had changed Parliament, was the Church never to change its constitution? It might be said that "precedent" stopped the way.

"Precedent," "precedent," it was always precedent, and if precedent had been attended to they might have travelled up to that House in six-horse coaches in three days, instead of by rail in three hours. (Laughter and cheers.)

The Rev. W. B. HOPKINS said that in point of fact this question really led up to the question of the division of the present dioceses. (Loud cries of "Hear, hear.") Their policy must be a policy of patience.

The Rev. Canon SELWYN proposed an amendment that the motion should be sent to a committee, which was seconded by the Rev. C. E. KENNAWAY.

Archdeacon DENISON protested against this course.

As to the "multitudinous character" of the synods, what was the remedy? To divide the dioceses. (Cheers.) Many clergymen and laymen had refused to co-operate heartily with the Bishop of London in regard to his fund, because they found that the division of the diocese of 3,000,000 people formed no part of his scheme. (Hear, hear.) One of the most eminent of the bishops had said to him that there was no question of the power of a bishop to appoint a suffragan, and it was only owing to the dropping-down-deadness which a late wit said characterised clergymen in presence of a bishop, that prevented him saying, "Then why on earth don't you appoint two suffragans yourself?" (Laughter.)

After some conversation, the amendment was withdrawn, and the original motion put to the House and carried in the following terms:—

That, in the opinion of this House, it is desirable that diocesan synods be annually held, to which the whole body of the clergy and of the churchwardens (being communicants) may be, either personally or by representation, invited, and on which occasion the synod may be occupied by consultation only, and not by the business usually transacted at visitations; they are further of opinion that, to render such an assembly as useful as possible, the bishop, if he sees fit, should invite to the synod any other laymen in his diocese whose attendance may by him be deemed desirable. They would contemplate the extension of the sessions of this synod to as many days as may be required by the business before it. And, secondly, that an humble address be presented to the Upper House, praying their Lordships to take this resolution into consideration.

THE NATURAL SCIENCES.

Canon WORDSWORTH presented a petition signed by several persons describing themselves as students of the natural sciences, in which they expressed their sincere regret that researches into scientific truth were perverted by some in our own times into occasion for casting doubt upon the truth and authenticity of the Holy Scriptures. The petitioners proceeded to say:—

We conceive that it is impossible for the Word of God, as written in the book of nature, and God's Word, written in Holy Scripture, to contradict one another, however much they may appear to differ. We are not forgetful that physical science is not complete, but is only in a condition of progress, and that at present our finite reason enables us only to see as through a glass darkly, and we confidently believe that a time will come when the two records will be seen to agree in every particular. We cannot but deplore that natural science should be looked upon with suspicion by many who do not make a study of it, merely on account of the unadvised manner in which some are placing it in opposition to Holy Writ. We believe that it is the duty of every scientific student to investigate nature simply for the purpose of elucidating truth, and that if he finds that some of his results appear to be in contradiction to the written Word, or rather to his own interpretation of it, which may be erroneous, he should not presumptuously affirm that his own conclusions must be right, and the statements of Scripture wrong; rather, leave the two side by side till it shall please God to allow us to see the manner in which they may be reconciled; and, instead of insisting upon the seeming differences between science and the Scriptures, it would be as well to rest in faith upon the points in which they agree. We therefore pray that the bishops and clergy in Convocation assembled, and the Church of England, will do all in their power to maintain a harmonious alliance between physical science and revealed religion.

The petition, Canon Wordsworth said, was signed by some of the most scientific men in the country. On the motion of the Rev. Sir G. PREVOST, the petition was ordered to be printed.

A DEMAND FOR PUBLIC MONEY.

In reference to the expenses of Convocation, Archdeacon HALE said that the Kirk of Scotland had a grant of 1,100*l.* from the Consolidated Fund to

defray the expenses of their sessions, and he thought that that House had an equally strong and valid claim on the Government.

THE BURIAL SERVICE.

Dr. JELF moved that the House concur in the recommendations of the committee on this subject. The substance of it was that no change in the Burial Service was desirable, but that a gradual restoration of Church discipline was desirable.

Canon SEYMOUR seconded the motion, and said that it was impossible to make any alteration in the Burial Service suitable to notorious sinners and still proper for those who had given evidence of a Christian life. He thought that extreme cases could only be met by the revived discipline of the Church, and not by any proposed alteration in the service. Discipline was of Divine appointment, and had come down to the Church through eighteen centuries from our Lord and His Apostles. It might be modified and readjusted at different times, but entirely to ignore and neglect it, was a breach of faith towards our Lord and His Church.

The Dean of NORWICH was sorry he could not agree with the report. He thought that some plan might be placed before the public by which the difficulties which were felt on this subject might be obviated; and he therefore moved, as an amendment—

That in the opinion of this House the recommendations contained in the report of the committee on the Burial Service in favour of the restoration of discipline do not meet the alleged difficulties, which would be better remedied by modifying the expressions against which exception has been taken.

The Rev. Mr. KENNAWAY seconded the amendment, because he saw there was no possibility of obtaining that sort of discipline which appeared to be contemplated. They must take some other remedy in order to meet the great and conscientious difficulty felt by a large portion of the clergy, and for preventing those scandals which now so often occurred.

After a few words from the Dean of PETERBOROUGH, the debate was adjourned.

The subject was again resumed on Friday and fully discussed, some members advocating a restoration of discipline; others speaking of it as purely visionary. One speaker asked why they should be taunted by Independents and Baptists with the fact that those whom those sectaries vomited forth were entitled to be received among the faithful laity of the Church? (Cheers.)

—Another (Archdeacon HALE) thought that the restoration of discipline would be an intolerable evil. Punishment now-a-days was different from punishments in times past, when the majority of offenders were awed by being summoned, confessed their guilt, and, after penance, were restored. (Hear, hear.)

Archdeacon SANDFORD said that no discipline could meet the case of respectable sinners. ("Oh, oh," and "Hear, hear.") Why should they not show sympathy to those who had grown grey in the service of the Church, and some of whom, like himself, had had to read the service at great personal risk? (Hear, hear.)

He complained most of the want of sympathy shown by the Bishops, who were all ready to advise their clergy, but none to protect them, except the Bishop of Oxford.—Canon HARVEY mentioned a case in his own parish (Hornsey) where he had refused to read the Burial Service, and had persuaded the relatives to take the corpse elsewhere.—The debate was adjourned.

THE PRIVY COUNCIL JUDGMENT.

The Rev. Chancellor MASSINGBERD read a report of the Committee of Gravamina on the subject of the Privy Council judgment.—Archdeacon HALE begged the House to pause before they accepted so hastily prepared a document. Was this the proper mode of stating a doctrine of the Church of England?—The Dean of WESTMINSTER and the Rev. Canon SELWYN, B.D., both protested against receiving the document or having it printed. The Rev. Lord ALWYN COMPTON had no objection to refer it back to the committee.—Archdeacon HALE protested against the report going forth in connection with his name. It was a most improper and irregular proceeding. Why was he never invited to attend? He knew nothing of it. To move the whole power of the Church to issue a declaration of that sort was a very important proceeding.—Canon SELWYN moved that the report be referred back.—The Dean of WESTMINSTER pointed out that in some of the copies of the report it was declared "that the Canonical Scriptures were given by inspiration"; in others "the whole of the Canonical Scriptures," &c., which three words made all the difference.—This was explained to be a clerical error.—After a few words in vindication of the committee by Chancellor MASSINGBERD, Canon Selwyn's motion was carried.

The House was prorogued to Tuesday, June 21.

THE CONGREGATIONAL BUILDING SOCIETY.—On Tuesday and Wednesday last the English Congregational Chapel-building Society held its meetings in Halifax. On Tuesday evening the committee met at Manor Heath, the residence of J. Crossley, Esq., to transact its more private business. On Wednesday morning the committee resumed at ten o'clock in one of the vestries of Sion Chapel. This meeting was especially for making grants of money and for voting loans, and was open to all the ministers and deacons of the three Independent churches. Grants to the extent of some hundreds of pounds were voted—loans to the extent of some thousands. The committee subsequently dined with Mr. Crossley, at the White Swan Hotel. In the afternoon—as many gentlemen had come to Halifax from great distances—a large party of friends went to the new orphanage on Skircoat Moor, with which they were much delighted. In the evening of this day Mr. Crossley had invited a large party of gentle-

men to meet the committee at Manor Heath. Some forty or fifty persons were present. After singing and prayer, Mr. Crossley proceeded to lay the case of the society before his guests. It appears that in ten years the committee have assisted in the erection of 200 chapels, rendering aid to the extent of 50,000*l.* Experience has shown, however, that the most efficient mode of working the society is by loans rather than by grants. Hitherto the grants have been greatly in excess of the loans. Henceforth it is proposed to make the loans the chief feature. The project now is to raise a loan fund of 50,000*l.*, to be lent to chapels, without interest, in such sums as may be voted in committee, to be repaid in five years. In this way the committee will be able to put into circulation 10,000*l.* per annum, and yet keep their fund intact. Towards this sum some 8,000*l.* were already in hand. Mr. Crossley reported some 15,000*l.* as promised to him in addition to the sum already mentioned, and the most sanguine hopes were expressed on every hand that the whole amount would be realised.—*Halifax Courier.*

GARIBALDI AND THE EVANGELICAL CONTINENTAL SOCIETY.—A deputation from the above society, consisting of the secretary, the Rev. John Shedlock, M.A.; the sub-treasurer, Eusebius Pye Smith, Esq.; the Rev. W. Tiddy; Frederick Tomkins, Esq., M.A., D.C.L., barrister-at-law; Dr. Camps, H. Mayo, Esq., Ferdinand Ehrenzeller, Esq., and Mr. Arthur Smith, had an audience with General Garibaldi on Wednesday morning, at the residence of Charles Seely, Esq., M.P., Princes-gate, Knightsbridge. The General received the deputation most cordially, shaking hands with each gentleman. They presented to him an address. In reply to the address General Garibaldi said: "You are the true friends of progress, and I am glad to see you. In Italy the moral influence of the Papacy is extinct, and if the French were withdrawn from Rome the Papacy would cease to exist in Italy. I do not say that I am Protestant, for if I did the priests would raise the cry of heretic against me, and my influence would be gone. We are sons of the same God." Upon the Rev. J. Shedlock explaining that the object of the society's operations was not political, not to make proselytes to Protestantism, but to give the people of Italy the Holy Scriptures, to teach the people, and to instruct the young, the General exclaimed again, "You are the true friends of progress; you are right, and I wish you all success in your efforts on behalf of Italy." Mr. Eusebius Pye Smith presented the General with a copy of Vinet's "Convictions Religieuses," in the French language, adding that we all desired a united Italy, and that he should be glad if the General could find time to peruse the volume presented, at his leisure in Capri, to which the General assented. After cordially shaking hands with the General, the deputation withdrew.

Religious Intelligence.

NEW CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL, BARKING, ESSEX.

The new chapel at Barking, of the laying of the corner-stone of which we gave a lengthened account some few months since, was opened for public worship on Tuesday week. The day was very fine, and a large number of ladies and gentlemen assembled from all the surrounding region, as well as from London, and still more remote places. We observed amongst the company, Messrs. Isaac Perry, W. W. Perry, T. Curwen, James Carter, Jabez Legg, W. Kent, and Eusebius Smith; the Revs. T. Binney, J. Smedmore (the pastor), S. Newth, J. Viney, R. Ashton, T. W. Davids, W. Tyler, J. Kennedy, W. Dorling, J. H. Hitchens, J. N. Goulty, I. V. Mummery, W. H. Bonner, A. Bozscott, E. T. Egg, W. M. Anstey, S. Thorley, T. C. Hine, S. Conway, T. Fison, J. Morrison, H. Winzar, H. P. Bowen, T. Hook, F. Neller, J. Merchant, D. Grigby, and J. Mulley. The building stands upon the site of the old chapel, which, though reared in troublous times, occupied as commanding a spot as could be found in the centre of the town. The new church, which will seat about 500 people, is of the Gothic order, but entirely free from pillars, except the few small iron ones that support the single gallery at the entrance end. It has no spire, and scarcely any ornamentation. The entire cost of the building was 1,800*l.* Of this sum, 1,250*l.* had been subscribed before the day of opening, leaving only 550*l.* to be obtained.

The devotional services on Tuesday morning were conducted by the Revs. J. Viney, T. W. Davids, E. T. Egg, and W. Tyler; and the Rev. T. Binney preached the sermon, which was founded upon the words, "Every man in his place," Judges vii. 21, and was listened to with marked interest.

ISAAC PERRY, Esq., of Chelmsford, presided at the collation that followed. In proposing the usual loyal toasts, he remarked with thankfulness upon the civil and religious changes that have been effected in England since the formation of the fellowship at Barking in the reign of Charles II. The Rev. JOSEPH SMEDMORE said he felt himself to be under great indebtedness to Mr. Binney for the service rendered that morning, and also for having obtained 50*l.* from the Coward Trust towards the building fund. The sermon was even better than the money, and well fitted to impart both instruction and stimulus to all who heard it. While yet a college student he had been accustomed to attend the ministrations of Mr. Binney, and to derive manifold personal advantage therefrom—mental and

spiritual alike. Mr. BINNEY, who, on rising, was greeted with hearty cheers, said he had known Mr. Smedmore ever since he was preparing for the ministry, and had always felt a lively interest in his welfare. It was a sort of gratification to himself that the state of his health had permitted him to fulfil this engagement. Mr. Smedmore had evidently won the cordial esteem of his ministerial brethren, as well as of his church and congregation. The Rev. John Curwen, of Plaistow, who deeply regretted that illness kept him away from these services, had written a letter to him, in which testimony was borne to the untiring zeal and the thorough efficiency displayed by Mr. Smedmore in this chapel-building work, though he had naturally no inclination to engage in such an undertaking. Mr. Binney pronounced the chapel to be "a really beautiful building." Mr. SMEDMORE paid a warm tribute of gratitude to Mr. Curwen for the constant counsel and help he had given to him and his people, and mentioned that, in addition to the 40*l.* previously contributed, Mr. Curwen had just sent him 11*l.* 10*s.* Mr. R. Cunliffe, jun., moreover, had added 5*l.* to the 20*l.* he had before given. To their friend in the chair they were beyond measure indebted, for it was to him and to Mr. Wells that the very starting of this enterprise was due, and to it they had both given repeated and liberal support. The meeting was also addressed by Mr. Perry, and the Rev. T. W. Davids, of Colchester.

Mention having been made of the fact that the London Congregational Chapel-Building Society had given 250*l.* towards the undertaking, its treasurer, Eusebius Smith, Esq., gave utterance to the intense satisfaction he felt at the progress of chapel-building in all directions. Thanks were subsequently given to the local committee, with its secretaries and treasurer; to the Wesleyan brethren, who had materially aided the church by the use of their Bethel and school-room; and to sundry other persons, for various services.

After tea the chapel was again filled to overflowing, to hear a sermon by the Rev. Thos. Jones, of Bedford Chapel, Camden-town, upon the spirituality of Divine worship, which brought the engagements of the day to a happy close. The amount subscribed in the course of the day reached to nearly 150*l.*, including a second donation of 50*l.* from Isaac Perry, Esq. Towards the 1,250*l.* above specified, the congregation itself raised some 400*l.*, and Samuel Morley, Esq., contributed 50*l.*; and various sums were subscribed by Messrs. John Morley, William Edwards, Travers Buxton, Eusebius Smith, George F. White, Joseph Nunneley, Edward Rawlings, C. Reed, J. and H. Spicer, T. Spalding, H. Rutt, J. Carter, S. Newth, Jabez Legg, C. M. Robison, T. Curwen, T. D. Ridley, John Dixon, Joseph Foster, George Thomasin, W. W. Perry, F. Wells, J. Shedlock, S. Tabor, Thos. Circuit, E. Edwards, Joshua Wilson, Josiah Viney, W. Piper, and other gentlemen. It may be also stated that several personal friends of Mr. Smedmore in Leicester united to contribute the handsome sum of more than one hundred guineas.

WALWORTH-ROAD CHAPEL.—This new chapel, erected for the use of the Baptist church and congregation worshipping for a long series of years in Lion-street, was opened during the past week with a succession of services. On Sunday special sermons were preached in the old chapel, by the Rev. S. Green, former pastor of the church, and by the Rev. W. Howieson, its present pastor. A public meeting having the same object in view was held on Monday. Next day, the Rev. F. Tucker and the Rev. J. P. Chown preached in the new chapel to large and appreciative congregations. A public meeting was held on Wednesday evening. It was numerously attended. On the platform were the Revs. R. Robinson, of Lambeth; H. Stowell Brown, of Liverpool; S. G. Green, B.A., N. Haycroft, M.A., W. Howieson, P. J. Turquand, C. Vince, T. Collins, of Gloucester; W. H. Watson, Esq., secretary of the Sunday-school Union; W. Shipton, Esq., secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association; Messrs. Thompson and Carter, and others. The meeting was opened with singing and prayer. In the absence through indisposition of Sir Morton Peto, Bart., M.P., Mr. W. H. Watson was called to the chair. Mr. Tresidder then made a statement with reference to the new building, portions of which have already appeared in these columns. He said that the total cost of the building and furniture would be 5,900*l.*, and that of that amount Mr. Howieson had obtained 1,000*l.* from Christian friends in connection with the church. The members of the church and congregation had given or obtained another 1,000*l.* as they engaged, and 308*l.* in addition. Some 673*l.* was still required, but 120*l.* had been contributed on the preceding day, and the Fishmongers' Company has sent them 50*l.*, leaving a remaining balance of 500*l.* The Rev. R. Robinson, of York-road Chapel, moved the adoption of the report, and spoke of the advantages of having a prominent situation for a chapel. He enjoined the young members of the congregation to be active workers in the departments of Christian usefulness connected with the chapel. The Rev. H. S. Brown seconded this resolution, and spoke on the blessedness of giving. Mr. Thompson, one of the deacons, made an earnest appeal to the friends to contribute this 500*l.*, in order, as he said, that the teachers of the school might have a fair stand in raising funds for the new schools. A collection was then made, after which the Rev. S. Green, of Bradford, formerly a member of Lion-street, moved the next resolution, that the meeting desired to record their thanks to God for the erection of this new house of prayer, and expressing a hope that it would be opened free

from debt. The Rev. N. Haycroft, of Bristol, seconded, and the Rev. C. Vince, of Birmingham, supported the resolution, which was carried unanimously. It was then announced that the result of the collection, together with the promises of friends to subscribe within a month, would make 200*l.*, and Messrs. W. H. Watson, Thompson, and J. E. Tresidder, asserted their intention of contributing 100*l.* each to make up the 500*l.* required. It is hardly necessary to observe that the munificent offers of these gentlemen were received with loud cheering. The Revs. P. J. Turquand and C. H. Spurgeon then delivered interesting addresses, and the meeting concluded with singing and prayer. On Thursday evening the Rev. J. Stoughton, of Kensington, preached in the chapel, and on Friday evening a communion service was held, when above 500 members of Christian churches were present. It was presided over by the Rev. Dr. Steane.

UXBRIDGE.—On Tuesday interesting services were held in connection with the anniversary of the Baptist chapel in this place. The Rev. A. McMillan, minister of Craven-hill Chapel, preached an impressive discourse in the afternoon to a good congregation from Psalm lxxii. 6, and the Rev. W. G. Lewis in the evening preached to a full chapel from Exodus xvii. 15. A very large number of persons partook of tea in the interval. The schoolroom was tastefully decorated. The following ministers were present: the Revs. Mr. Gray, of Windsor; J. Gibson, of West Drayton; T. Smith, of Harrow; Atkinson, of Harlington; and G. Rouse Lowden, pastor.

HAMPSHIRE CONGREGATIONAL UNION.—The Hants Congregational Union held its spring meetings at Gosport on Wednesday, the 20th inst. The meetings were held in connection with the two Congregational churches of the town. The ministers and delegates of the Union met in the Lower Chapel, at half-past ten o'clock, for the despatch of business. The Rev. C. P. Moss, the minister of the chapel, presided. The business related chiefly to extended evangelistic efforts, the character and custody of the trust deeds of the chapels of the denomination, and the Pastors' Retiring Fund. The Rev. Dr. Ferguson, of London, gave a lucid statement of the principles and operations of this institution, which resulted in a resolution, unanimously adopted, urging its claims upon the churches and members of the union. The sermon was preached in the evening, in the Upper Chapel (the Rev. W. Tidd Matson's), by the Rev. J. E. Tanmer, of Lymington, after which the Lord's Supper was administered. The Rev. T. Adkins presided. The Sunday-school Union, in connection with the general Union, held its annual meeting on the previous evening. After tea, served in a spacious room at the Star Hotel, the public meeting was constituted, Wm. Tice, Esq., in the chair. An elaborate statistical report was presented by the secretary, Mr. W. G. Lankester. This was followed by a valuable paper on the question, "Who ought to be scholars in our schools?" read by G. O. Aldridge, Esq., of Christchurch. The meeting was also addressed by several ministers. The cordial welcome given by Mr. Matson and Mr. Moss, and the generous hospitality displayed by their respective congregations, gave the different meetings a peculiar charm.

HIGHBURY CHAPEL, BRISTOL.—On the evening of the 21st, a social meeting was held of the influential congregation of Highbury Chapel, Cotham. Tea was provided in the new and spacious school-room recently erected, after which there was a performance of sacred music in the chapel upon the new and powerful organ which has lately been added. There was a large attendance, and the proceedings partook more of a conversazione than of the usual tea-gatherings. After the music an adjournment took place to the school-room. The Rev. David Thomas, the esteemed pastor of the congregation, was in the chair. The chairman having referred to the alterations which had been made in the building, remarked that the friends generally worshipping in that place had during the twenty years he had been among them been distinguished by their sympathy with all benevolent and Christian work outside. They had been, in many respects, a pattern of Christian liberality; and there was much reason to be thankful for the liberal spirit which had distinguished them. They had done something to promote the cause of Christ in their neighbourhood. He referred to the establishment of the schools on Durdham Down, and expressed his satisfaction that nothing had occurred in connection with Redland-park Church upon which anybody there could look back with feelings of regret. Mr. W. P. Sibree then read the statement of accounts. The total amount of expenditure was 3,851*l.* 7*s.* 9*d.*, and Mr. Sibree stated that the cost of the tower—about which some objections had been made—was defrayed by Mr. R. Ash. Mr. Tardrew read a list of the contributions, &c. The total sum raised was 3,960*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.*, so that there was a balance of 108*l.* 17*s.* in favour of the treasurer. The announcement was received with applause. Mr. W. Somerville, the Rev. E. J. Hartland, Mr. H. Brittan, and Mr. T. Waterman also addressed the meeting, and the proceedings terminated with singing and prayer.

SOUTH DEVON CONGREGATIONAL UNION.—The annual meeting of the South Devon Congregational Union was held on Wednesday evening at Bath-street Independent Chapel, Plymouth. The Rev. E. Hipwood presided. The Rev. C. Wilson, minister of Norley-street Independent Chapel, Plymouth, then gave an outline of the operations of the association during the past year, embodying in his remarks the substance of a report read at the business meeting of the association, held in the morning at Batter-street. The speaker alluded to the numerous

villages, hamlets, and straggling cottages in the rural districts of Devon that were destitute of real spiritual help. To such places the association directed its efforts. Many thinly populated districts were unable to support a minister, and the association came to their aid. The work of the association might be divided into four forms:—To provide pastors for those rural districts where the inhabitants were too poor to support one; to afford supplies to those chapels without a stated minister (valuable assistance having been rendered by the students of the Western Independent College in this particular); the use of lay agents to preach the Gospel in remote districts; and house-to-house visitations. The income of the association for the past year was 351*l.* 10*s.*, the balance due to the treasurer for the former year being 15*l.* 13*s.*, and the expenditure for the past year was 327*l.*, making a total of 342*l.* 13*s.*, leaving a balance in the hands of the treasurer of 8*l.* 17*s.* Special reference was made to the hindrances encountered by the agents of the association, and Mr. Wilson urged the necessity of the various churches waking up to activity in the matter of home evangelisation. The Rev. William Cross, of Brixham, spoke of the benefit the association had conferred upon rural districts and small towns. The Rev. C. B. Symes spoke of the hindrances often met by the agents in their work—heathenish, bigoted, and cruel, as if they were living amongst Brahmins or Hottentots. The difficulties, however, they had to meet with would not make them, he hoped, relinquish their work, but induce greater activity. Mr. Alfred Rooker directed their attention to the especial claims of the association on the Christian Church. The report which they had just heard gave some most interesting details. In some places, even in Devon, the light of the Gospel appeared to have gone round and round them, so to speak, but had not penetrated. The object of the association was not to carry into these parts a coloured lamp, or, in other words, to make Dissenters, it sought to carry the pure white light into places where there was darkness. He believed, if the whole Christian Church in England were to exert all their efforts against error, there would soon be the glorious dawn of a bright spiritual morning. The Rev. E. Jones, (Paignton) then briefly explained some of the particular objects and workings of the association. Mr. Bake, a student, and the Rev. J. N. Charlton, the principal of the Western College, and other gentlemen, having spoken, the proceedings closed.

Parliamentary Proceedings.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

LAND TRANSFER ACT.

On Thursday, Lord CHELMSFORD called attention to the returns made to Parliament under the Land Transfer Act passed in 1862. From the small number of deeds registered under the bill—only sixty-five applications for registry having been made since the act was passed—he contended that the measure, from which so much was expected, had proved a complete failure.

The LORD CHANCELLOR said that all such changes, however advantageous, were very slowly recognised and adopted in practice. In the first year after the Copyhold Enfranchisement Act was passed only one application was made under its provisions. That measure became law in 1841, but it was not till twenty years afterwards that its utility was fully perceived. In 1861 the applications had risen to 786. The operation of the act authorising exchanges under the powers vested in the Enclosure Commissioners was equally slow. He reminded the House that Parliament had refused to make the registry of titles under the Transfer of Land Act compulsory. He had been compelled to adopt the voluntary principle, and owners of land were left to discover the advantages the measure offered, for themselves, and apply for a title under it, often against the opposition of their solicitors. He ascribed the present limited results of the change in the law to the hostility of those branches of the legal profession in which the remuneration was regulated by the length of deeds, which led to needless and expensive repetition. Thus a system of the greatest complexity was perpetuated. He hoped to lessen this difficulty by introducing a bill on the subject of the remuneration of solicitors.

THE CONFERENCE.

Lord CARNARVON asked if, in the case of any further postponement of the Conference, any steps would be taken to procure an armistice between Prussia and Austria and Denmark. Lord RUSSELL explained the reasons why the Conference had been postponed till Monday, but declined to enter into any discussion as to an armistice. Lord MALMESBURY doubted the validity of the excuses made by the German Governments for the delay, and hoped these postponements would not be too frequent. Lord STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE thought the proceedings of Austria and Prussia ought to be closely observed, as the hostilities were not only continued in a cruel and murderous spirit, but there was an apparent intention to extend them to the whole of Jutland.

Their Lordships adjourned at five minutes past seven o'clock.

REMISSION OF CAPITAL SENTENCES.

On Friday, the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH laid upon the table a bill to amend the law relating to the execution of the sentence of death. The noble earl explained that he proposed by this measure to revive the old practice, which had been altered on the accession of her Majesty to the throne. Prior to that event it was the duty of the Recorder of

London to make a report on all cases of capital punishment, and these were decided upon by all the members of the Cabinet, with the Lord Chief Justice of England, in the presence of the Sovereign. The bill contained, however, a proviso dispensing with the actual presence of the Sovereign. He thought the time had arrived when it was desirable that the decision in such cases should be resolved upon on the responsibility of all the members of the Government, and not by the Secretary of State alone.

WORKING-CLASS TRAINS.

The Earl of DERBY moved a resolution to the effect that it be an instruction to the committee on every bill proposing to construct railways in the metropolis to insert provisions for securing to the labouring classes cheap transit to and from their labours by a morning and evening train. Lord STANLEY of ALDERLEY suggested that the rule should be applied to existing railways. After a few words from the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH, the Earl of SHAFTESBURY said one train a day would be insufficient, and the experiment would be useless unless suitable residences for the working classes were provided along the various lines. The resolution was then agreed to.

Lord CHELMSFORD called attention to the effect of the Order in Council of the 1st August, 1860, upon certain naval captains, and after some discussion, their Lordships adjourned at seven o'clock.

On Monday night, some bills were advanced a stage, and the House adjourned at twenty-five minutes past five o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

On Wednesday Mr. BLAKE moved the second reading of the Grand Juries (Ireland) Bill, the object of which is to separate the fiscal from the criminal duties of grand juries, committing the former to parochial and baronial boards constituted for the purpose. Mr. DAWSON moved the rejection of the bill. A somewhat animated discussion succeeded, it being conducted entirely by Irish members. On a division, the second reading was lost by 150 to 29.

Mr. LONGFIELD moved the second reading of the Chief Rents (Ireland) Bill, the object of which is to provide other means for settling disputes with regard to chief rents than the Court of Chancery. Sir E. GREGAN moved its rejection, but, after debate, the bill was read a second time.

The Joint Stock Companies Voting Papers Bill was read a second time.

The other business was disposed of, and the House adjourned.

GARIBALDI'S DEPARTURE.

On Thursday, in reply to a question put by Mr. Kinnaird, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER stated the proceedings which had given rise to what he termed "the absurd rumours" as to the reasons of the curtailment of the visit of General Garibaldi, declaring the "ridiculous stories" which had been circulated on the subject to be entirely destitute of any shadow of foundation. In consequence of Dr. Fergusson's opinion, he had been invited to a consultation with the Duke of Sutherland, Colonel Peard, General Ebor, and other friends.

We all came to the conclusion that it was our duty to advise General Garibaldi to contract very greatly the circle of his provincial excursion, and not only contract it, but fix it absolutely before leaving London, in order that it might not be capable of being extended and enlarged by any new applications. This was first made known to General Garibaldi by two of his friends; and afterwards I was requested, and did readily undertake, to tell General Garibaldi what I thought on the subject. I ventured to represent to him very strongly that it was scarcely possible—and most of us may have had experience enough in such matters, though on a very inferior scale, to form an opinion on the subject—that he could go through these labours without great injury to his health, which I venture to add I believe the people of England hold to be an object of great value to his country and the world. (Hear, hear.) I represented to him that it was his duty to consider what would be the effect on his health if the engagements he had made, or appeared to have made, and probably would be called upon to make in addition to those he had already contracted, were carried out. I ventured to say there was some risk lest the magnificent national reception given to him in the great metropolis of this country, and which really forms an historical event, should not gain, but possibly even rather lose something of its real dignity from being frequently repeated elsewhere. That, sir, was the whole substance of my communication to General Garibaldi—(hears)—the upshot of it being very strong representations to the effect that we prayed him to consider whether he ought not to contract greatly the circle of his tour, and fix it absolutely before quitting London. General Garibaldi heard me with great patience, and then proceeded to state that in his opinion there was great force in what I had said, but there would be very great difficulty in drawing a distinction between the claims or wishes of one town or those of another—that he considered the purpose of his journey was already at an end; that he had come to England, not with the view of obtaining those honours for himself which people might be disposed to pay, but with the view of rendering his thanks and acknowledgments to the Government and people of England for what he considered they had done for his country. (Hear, hear.) He stated that it appeared to him that in visiting London he visited the entire nation, and consequently, as he had visited the nation, the purpose of his journey had been accomplished; that the promises he had given were all conditional, and that he felt, therefore, perfectly at liberty to withdraw from them; and that he thought the best plan would be to withdraw at present from visiting the provinces. He stated at the same time that he hoped it might be in his power at some future period, and with less pomp and formality, to come back to England, and he would then indulge in the desire he felt of gratifying the wishes of his old friends and others by seeing them

in a less formal manner than it is now possible for him to effect that object.

Mr. VINCENT SCULLY asked whether, in the course of the conversation, he represented to General Garibaldi that the feelings of the metropolis of England represented the feelings of the people of Ireland? (Loud laughter and cheers.)

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER: In the conversation referred to I made no statement with respect to the population of Ireland; and with respect to the population of England, I left General Garibaldi to judge of their feelings entirely for himself. (Cheers.)

LISBURN ELECTION.

On the order for taking into consideration the petitions of R. Kennedy, B. Pelan, and J. J. Richardson, in the matter of the Lisburn election, Mr. BUTT moved a select committee be appointed to inquire and report upon the matter of the petitions, supporting the motion by a dry legal argument, citing authorities and precedents. After a few remarks by Mr. HUNT and the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, the motion was negatived.

FIRE INSURANCE.

On the order for going into a committee of ways and means,

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, after some observations upon certain resolutions of which notice had been given by Sir H. Willoughby and Mr. H. B. Sheridan for further reductions of the duty on fire insurance, reminded the House that the surplus revenue shown by the Budget of 2,570,000*l.* had been reduced by the remissions of the sugar-duties and the income-tax to 440,000*l.*, against which there were certain contingent or possible charges which might affect this balance. Still, he had proposed a reduction of the duty on fire-insurance of stock in trade, which would still leave a surplus of 238,000*l.* Looking to the contingency of a second portion of the Scheldt redemption becoming payable this year, the Government were not in a condition to go further. Under these circumstances, it was proposed by Mr. Sheridan, instead of a reduction of 1*s.* 6*d.* per cent. in the insurance-duty upon stock in trade, to reduce the duty 1*s.* per cent. on all descriptions of property insured against fire. This would sweep away the whole of the surplus, and something more. He left the House, he said, to decide whether the Government should be left without any surplus of revenue, and the finances of the country be forced to depend upon accidental resources.

Mr. H. B. SHERIDAN entered into a variety of calculations to show that his proposal to make a uniform reduction of 1*s.* per cent. on all descriptions of property liable to the duty would not affect the surplus. He reminded the House of the resolution adopted last session on the subject of this duty, and concluded a speech of considerable length by moving a resolution—

That such a reduction of the fire-insurance duty as that contemplated by the resolution of the House passed last session would be best effected by a uniform duty of 1*s.* per cent. on all descriptions of property liable to the said duty.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. HADFIELD. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, in his reply, observed that Mr. Sheridan, in his speech, had implied that the Government had done wrong in reducing the income-tax from 7*d.* to 6*d.*; that the preference should have been given to the fire-insurance duty. He pointed out errors in Mr. Sheridan's calculations.

Mr. DISRAELI said the principle of the resolution was the right one, and he should vote for the resolution, intending, if the motion that the House go into committee should be negatived, to move that the words "of 1*s.* per cent." be omitted from the resolution.

After a good deal of desultory discussion the House divided, when the original motion, that the Speaker leave the chair, was carried by 170 to 117; and the House then went into committee.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER then moved an amended resolution on the subject of the fire-insurance duties, and Sir H. WILLOUGHBY having moved an amendment, which was negatived, and the resolution adopted. Some other grievances having been brought forward, the House went into committee upon the Navy Estimates, but the chairman was ordered to report progress.

Several bills were then forwarded a stage.

GOVERNMENT ANNUITIES BILL.

The select committee on the Government Annuities Bill having been nominated, Sir M. FARQUHAR moved that the committee have power to send for persons, papers, and records. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER opposed the motion, urging a variety of objections to taking evidence before a committee upon such a measure, for which the Government was responsible, an inquiry that would throw over the bill till another session. A sharp debate followed, in the course of which Lord PALMERSTON observed that the real question was whether the bill should be entirely thrown over, for that would be the effect of the motion if it were carried. It would be much fairer to move its rejection at once. Upon a division, the motion was negatived by 127 to 104.

The remaining business having been disposed of, the House adjourned at ten minutes to one o'clock.

On Friday Sir R. Anstruther took his seat for Fifeshire.

In reply to Mr. Newdegate, Lord PALMERSTON said that arrangements had been made for the purchase of sites for the erection of fortifications for the Bristol Channel. Replying further to Mr. Osborne his Lordship said there was not a good foundation on the Sturbridge for the erection of fortifications, and therefore that part of the plan as to Spithead had been given up.

In reply to Mr. Black, Mr. M. GIBSON said there was some misunderstanding in reference to the export of rags from Italy. The Government did not understand that the Italian Government had abolished the export duty on rags.

CHINA.

On the motion of going into committee of supply, Mr. LIDDELL moved—

That in the opinion of this House further interference on the part of this country in the civil war in China is impolitic and unnecessary.

He entered at great length into an account of the missions of Mr. Ley and Captain Sherard Osborn, and declared that Mr. Ley's pretensions were monstrous and absurd. If a summary stop had not been put to his proceedings, England would inevitably have been dragged completely into the difficulties which would have arisen. He pointed out that we had interfered in the Chinese dispute with the Taepings, and contended that by our acts we had given an apparent sanction to deeds of the grossest barbarity perpetrated by the Chinese Government.

Mr. LAYARD replied, and said that our relations with China were now of the most amicable kind. He justified the course which had been taken with respect to the Taepings, whom he described as mere pillagers. He admitted that Mr. Ley had committed mistakes, but for them the English Government were not responsible. Their present policy was most necessary for the maintenance and support of our trade in China, and he hoped the House would not agree to the resolution which had been proposed.

Mr. W. E. FORSTER contended that our present policy was altogether a breach of neutrality, and argued that it should be abandoned. Mr. FERRAND was supporting Mr. Liddell's motion when the House was counted, and only thirty-five members being present, an adjournment took place at a quarter past eight o'clock.

AFFAIRS IN CHINA.

On Monday Mr. BAXTER gave notice, with reference to the abrupt termination of the debate on this subject on Friday, that on the first open day, on the motion for going into committee of supply, he would call the attention of the House to the state of affairs in China, and put a question to the noble lord at the head of the Government.

THE MEETING AT PRIMROSE-HILL.

In reply to Mr. H. Lewis, Sir G. GREY said that neither he nor the Commissioners of Police gave any special instructions to the police to interfere with the Garibaldi meeting on Primrose-hill on Saturday. Some time ago, in consequence of riots which took place in Hyde-park, all meetings on political or exciting subjects in the parks were prohibited. The inspector of police who broke up the meeting had acted on these general instructions, and not on any special instructions. There was no disorder at the meeting, and it might have been better to allow the proceedings to continue, but he considered the inspector acted up to the spirit of his general instructions in not allowing the meeting to proceed without some special authority.

Mr. C. BENTINCK made explanations regarding the help alleged to have been given by Admiral Mundy to Garibaldi in Sicily. He denied that Admiral Mundy had given any assistance to the General.

The Customs and Inland Revenue Bill was read a second time, after a short discussion.

The House then went into committee on the Civil Bills Court (Ireland) Bill, and was occupied for some hours with the discussion of its various clauses.

The Thames Conservancy Bill was read a second time after some discussion. The Court of Chancery (Despatch of Business) Bill passed through committee.

LAW OF PARTNERSHIP.

Mr. SCHOLEFIELD moved the second reading of the Partnership Law Amendment Bill. It was, he said, the same bill as that which passed through the House last year, but reached the House of Lords too late to become law. Mr. HUBBARD moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months. The measure struck at the primary maxim of commercial legislation, that with unlimited profits there ought to be unlimited responsibility. Mr. MALINS regarded the bill as the necessary complement to the establishment of limited liability in regard to public companies. After some further discussion, Mr. Hubbard's amendment was negatived without a division, and the bill was read a second time.

After some discussion, Mr. O'HAGAN obtained leave to bring in a bill to alter the constitution and amend the practice and course of proceeding in the High Court of Chancery in Ireland.

Mr. MASSEY moved that the Marquis of Hartington be at liberty to appear, by his counsel and agents, before the select committee appointed to inquire whether the Under-Secretary of State who was last appointed to that office thereby vacated his seat. The motion was agreed to.

The House adjourned at five minutes to one o'clock.

The Prussian soldiers in Denmark are allowed at the rate of ten cigars a day.

The number of patients relieved at the Hospital for Diseases of the Heart, 67, Margaret-street, Cavendish-square, was 132 during the week.

EARLY BIRDS.—The *Hants Advertiser* states that at Woolston, in Hants, a famous resort of British birds, the barley bird arrived on the 31st ult., which is unusually early, the natter-creeper on the 8th inst., and the swallow on the 12th inst.

GARIBALDI.

On Wednesday General Garibaldi made his long-promised visit to the City, and was received, as he always has been on his appearance in public, with the utmost enthusiasm. Some apprehensions were entertained that the crowds along the line of route would be as great as on the memorable occasion of the General's first entry into London. Extra precautions were taken to secure the comfort, and even the safety, of the anticipated concourse. But except in Chesham and around the Mansion House, the concourse of people was not very great. But there was a great gathering at the windows all along the route; from Princes-gate to the Mansion House there was scarcely one which was not occupied, and nearly all were crowded.

Almost immediately after twelve the General left Mr. Seely's house in a procession, consisting of about a dozen private carriages. In the first three were the immediate members of the suite that has followed him from Caprera, with other friends. In the fourth carriage were the General, Mr. Seely, Mr. Alderman Abbiss, and Mr. Richardson; and in the fifth were the General's sons, Menotti and Ricciotti. The remaining carriages, containing those who had been specially invited to accompany the General, closed the cortege. The reception all along the route was of course most enthusiastic.

The ceremony of presenting Garibaldi with the freedom of the City took place in the Guildhall soon after one o'clock. On his way through the hall he was welcomed with the most cordial manifestations of respect on all hands. From the Aldermen's Chamber he was escorted to that of the Common Council by Mr. Richardson and Mr. Alderman Abbiss, the mover and seconder of the resolutions conferring the honorary freedom. On his appearance there the whole court rose to receive him, and, as he made his way modestly along the floor of the chamber to the dais, the members cheered him again and again with great enthusiasm. Having paid his respects to the Lord Mayor, the General and his son Ricciotti took the seats assigned them, on the left of the chief magistrate. There, also, a chair had been placed for his son Menotti, but he was unfortunately absent during the ceremony.

The court having been regularly constituted, Mr. Woodthorpe, the town clerk, read the resolution passed by it on the 7th of April, and to give effect to which it was now convened. The resolution was in these terms:—

That the honorary freedom of this city be presented to General Giuseppe Garibaldi on the occasion of his visit to this country, as a tribute of respect to the most generous, brave, and disinterested of patriots.

This fresh recital of it by the Town Clerk was hailed with cheers.

The Chamberlain of London (Mr. Scott) then stood forward to address the General, who as he did so rose from his seat and remained standing during the ceremony. He said:—

Illustrious Sir,—The City of London invites you today to accept the highest honour at her disposal, placing your distinguished name upon the list of worthies inscribed upon the roll of honorary citizenship. It becomes my duty, accordingly, to address to you in her name a few words, however inadequate, of thanks, congratulation, and hearty welcome. We are well aware that no one shrinks more sensitively than yourself from the voice of eulogy, and yet, living as you do to please not yourself alone, you will feel that there are occasions—and this would appear to be one of them—when, for the sake of others, truth, though flattering, should be listened to. Bear with me, then, while I attempt to give feeble expression to the feelings of unbounded admiration and affection entertained towards you by the citizens of London. (Cheers.) I am not called to dilate upon the marvellous incidents of your eventful career, rivalling in interest the wildest romance, because the resolution of this honourable court, devised so as to secure a perfect unanimity of welcome, directs my remarks rather to your character than to the political events of your life. (Hear, hear.) History, it has been said, usually reproduces herself at intervals more or less frequent, but we turn her pages in vain to meet with the prototype of Giuseppe Garibaldi. (Cheers.) "None but himself can be his parallel!" We find, Sir, no counterpart to your career, even among the fabled legends of the early period of that city with which your name is henceforth imperishably connected,—when Romans, in the interest of their country—

Spared neither lands nor gold,
Nor son, nor wife, nor limb, nor life,
In those brave times of old.

In your person that primitive spirit of self-sacrifice is reproduced, in combination with characteristics and qualifications hitherto deemed incompatible. The genius of an accomplished General associated with the instincts and daring of one of the old Sea-kings; valour which liberated kingdoms and placed them at your feet, combined with the stern incorruptibility of a Dentatus and the severe simplicity of a Cincinnatus; a heart in which the boldness of a Leonidas dwells compatibly with the tenderness of a woman and the trust and truthfulness of a child—(cheers)—the whole strangely tempered and elevated by an earnest craving for the reign of peace, brotherhood, and freedom, manifesting faith in the world's future, in humanity, and in God. (Cheers.) Twice before mature manhood you had risked your own life to save a fellow-creature from drowning. Then, like our own Florence Nightingale, you devoted yourself to the suffering and the dying at a cholera hospital at Marseilles. Proceeding to South America, you are subjected to the infliction of torture to the utmost point of human endurance to compel—hopeless task—the betrayal of a friend; and, with generosity almost superhuman, you release, with his life, liberty, and property intact, the monster who had so tortured you when he falls into your hands. (Cheers.) What shall I say of the magnanimity which distributed the spoils of war and of prize-money on the ocean to the most needy of your companions, and stripped from your own back even the last remaining shirt to shelter

a comrade? (Renewed cheers.) Restored to Italy and to work to which your life is devoted, victory places at your disposal the revenues of two kingdoms and spoils which might have graced an Oriental triumph; but you reserve not to yourself sufficient to convey you to your sea-girt rock of Caprera; and, grandest of all, when stricken down in the name of your country, "wounded in the house of your friends," suffering and helpless during thirty weary days and sleepless nights, no taunt or reproach escaped your lips. Welcome, then, in the language of the resolution of this court, "most generous, brave, and distinguished of patriots!"—(cheers)—

Welcome, because the glory of thy wreath
Had never shade nor stain;
Because thy sword sprang never from its sheath
Except to cleave a chain.

Because thy hands, outstretched to all who live,
Armed not for thine own sake,
So strong to save, opened so wide to give,
Do not know how to take.

Because thy foes can reckon to thy charge
Only the noble crime
Of faith too liberal and love too large
For this unworthy time.

We thank you for the honour of this visit to our country and to our city. We accept implicitly the assurance that you come among us to seek renewed health and to find opportunity to thank us for the sympathy we extended and the aid—small indeed—which we rendered to the cause of constitutional freedom in your beloved land. We have no selfish interest to promote in relation to this your visit. The era of revolutions is to us closed. Freedom is, as it regards ourselves, an accomplished thing. (Cheers.) There may be deficiencies to supply and defects to remedy in the laws which regulate our social condition, but we wait as a people patiently and self-reliantly, being well assured that an intelligent, earnest unanimity will ever obtain for us that which we desire. We are, nevertheless, deeply indebted to you, Sir, for stirring anew the altar fires of our liberty—(cheers)—aiding us to realise afresh how dear to us is our old familiar freedom as we witness your struggles and sacrifices, and those of your gallant sons and compatriots, to win the same for your loved Italy. You will go back to that beautiful, but long misgoverned, country to tell of a sight you have witnessed—unique of its kind in Europe—of a million men contributing to a triumph to the uncrowned champion of liberty without the presence of a single soldier—(cheers);—and you can acquaint those who rule that the securest throne rests solely upon the affections of a free people, and that the power to "terminate the era of revolution" is in the keeping of rulers, and at their own disposal. (Cheers.) And now, Sir, permit me the privilege of offering you the right hand of fellowship as a citizen of London, requesting your acceptance, in the name of the Corporation, of this souvenir of your visit to their city. [The General pressed the hand to his heart, and the court cheered the incident.] We regret exceedingly, in common with our fellow-countrymen, that having been too demonstrative in our affection—having "loved you not wisely but too well"—your health renders it expedient that your visit should speedily terminate. Let us hope, in the language of Lord Palmerston, that the early termination of your visit, and foregoing the honours which are awaiting you in every town in this country, however disappointing to those who admire you, may have the effect of preserving to your country a life so valuable. (Cheers.) In the name of his lordship in the chair, of his brethren the aldermen, and of every member of this Court, I express a fervent hope that the invigorating air of our northern climate will be found to have contributed strength and soundness to your enfeebled limb; and may the unbought spontaneous love and welcome of a free people impart fresh nerve to your arm, and brace your patriotic heart for any work—for Italy, or for the world—which Providence may yet have in store for you! (Loud cheers.)

General Garibaldi presented himself to speak, and the plaudits were again renewed. He said, speaking in English:—

It is certainly impossible for me to express the gratitude I feel towards you, Mr. Mayor, and to the representatives of the glorious and great city of London, for the honour you have conferred on me to-day. I am prouder of that honour than of any that the false glare of war has reflected upon me. The greatest compliment for me is to be a freeman of this renowned city—this focus of the civilisation of the world. (Cheers.) I think I do not exaggerate when I say that this is the very centre of liberty. Here there are no foreigners, because every man is at home in England. (Cheers.) I repeat [placing his hand upon his heart] that it is impossible for me to express my gratitude to you and the city of London. I have to thank you, not for my proper self alone, but in the name of all my countrymen, who can certainly never feel grateful enough to the English people for the sympathy, succour, and material aid given to them as to oppressed people in almost every clime and under many circumstances. This is not the only occasion by many on which I have had the happiness to meet English people. I have been happy with you in many parts of the world, and at many times. In America particularly I was saved by the protection afforded me by the English flag; in China I received favours at the hands of English people so great that I can never forget them; and therefore my gratitude and my love towards England are imperishable. I am grateful for my country, too, for the sympathy shown it by the English people, and on their behalf and my own I thank you. (Cheers.)

The General was then presented to the Lady Mayoress, and afterwards received the congratulations of the Lord Mayor and the rest of the Aldermen. In the midst of the enthusiasm which his presence and bearing had called forth, he stepped forward to the front of the platform and said with great emphasis, "I am proud to belong to you all my life."

On the motion of Mr. Chaplin, chairman of the City Lands Committee, the address of the Chamberlain and the General's answer were ordered to be entered on the journals of the court.

The General was then escorted to the Mansion House, where he was entertained by the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress at luncheon, which was served in the Egyptian Hall in a style of great splendour. About 250 persons had received invitations to meet the General, including the members for the City of London and several of the metro-

politan boroughs; the Aldermen, Sheriffs, and Under-Sheriffs, the Town Clerk, and the rest of the principal officers of the Corporation; the chairmen of the various Corporation committees, and the deputy and common councillors for the ward of Bread-street, which the Lord Mayor represents in the Court of Aldermen. The toast of "The Queen" having been drunk, the Lord Mayor proposed Garibaldi's health, which was drunk with much cordiality. The General briefly expressed his thanks, and in turn invited the company to drink the health of the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress. He (the General) then gave his arm to the Lady Mayoress, which was the signal for the separation of the company. On taking his leave the General was enthusiastically cheered by the people who had assembled outside the Mansion House. He proceeded by way of Princes-street, Moorgate-street, and the City-road, to the residence of Mr. Seely at Princes-gate.

In the evening Garibaldi dined with Mr. Gladstone, and amongst the guests were:—The Archbishop of Dublin, the Duchess Dowager of Sutherland, the Duke of Devonshire and Lady Louisa Cavendish, the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland, the Duke and Duchess of Argyll, the Earl and Countess of Shaftesbury, Viscount and Viscountess Stratford de Redcliffe, Lord Seymour, the Bishop of Oxford, the Hon. Arthur Kinnaird, Mr. Milnes Gaskell, Mr. Panizzi, and Mr. W. H. Gladstone. Later in the evening Mrs. Gladstone "received." The Premier and Viscountess Palmerston, accompanied by the Hon. Misses Jocelyn, were among the early arrivals. The General took leave at half-past eleven o'clock.

On Thursday Garibaldi was entertained at a *déjeuner* by the members of the Reform Club in the large saloon. The room was beautifully decorated, and when the company, to the number of 200, were seated, the scene was exceedingly animated. Lord Ebury presided, and at the conclusion of the repast, and when the customary loyal toasts had been given with all the honours, he gave the health of the guest of the day, amid loud and continued cheering. When it had subsided, the chorus of her Majesty's Theatre, led by Signor Arditi, sang the Garibaldi Hymn with beautiful precision and effect. At its conclusion Garibaldi rose, amid prolonged applause, and said:—

My Lords and Gentlemen,—My gratitude to you for the great sympathy you have for me I think is very great; but I cannot express my feelings of gratitude for your kind sympathy to my poor country. [The members here cheered, and then came a pause for some minutes.] I am almost an Englishman now—(cheers repeated)—and I certainly am very proud to be so, and I invite you to a toast—"To the prosperity of my adopted country"; and I pray you to receive my thanks for your kindness. Never in my life will I forget the kindness I have received in this illustrious association.

The "Health of the President" was next proposed by Mr. Gore Langton, M.P., to which Lord Ebury made a brief response, which brought the proceedings to a close. General Garibaldi was then escorted from the club by the President, the Duke of Sutherland, and the principal members of the club. He was warmly received by the company in the saloon, and loudly cheered by the crowd as he left and returned along Pall-mall.

The General visited the House of Commons in the afternoon, accompanied by Mr. Seely. He sat on the front bench under the gallery. Of course, there was no expression of feeling, although for some minutes he was the observed of all observers. After remaining about a quarter of an hour, he proceeded to the House of Lords. The General was conducted by Sir Augustus Clifford, bearing the Black Rod, through the Peers' library and the private apartments of the Gentlemen Usher, and afterwards entered the House of Lords accompanied by the Earl of Shaftesbury. He was led by Sir A. Clifford to the space within the railings at the foot of the throne. He bowed slightly to their lordships, and afterwards shook hands with the Bishop of Oxford and the Earl of Harrowby. Earl Russell left the Treasury Bench, and, after warmly greeting the General, engaged him for a few moments in conversation. The General did not remain in the House of Peers more than five minutes, and then proceeded to the Prince's Chamber, the sculpture and portraits in which he passed a few minutes in examining. On leaving the Houses of Parliament the General returned to his carriage and took the route over Westminster-bridge to Fishmongers' Hall.

In the evening the Company of Fishmongers entertained the General at dinner in their stately corporate hall at the north end of London-bridge, and afterwards conferred upon him the honorary freedom of their order, enclosed in a handsome gold box, studded with precious stones, of the value of 100 guineas. Mr. Weston, the Prime Warden, occupied the chair, and in proposing the General's health, referred to the fact that Garibaldi, when Dictator of Naples, had presented a site in that city worth about 2,000*l.* on which to build an English church, and the decree confirming the gift, and which was drawn up in his own hand, recited that he had been moved to make the gift in consideration of the generous sympathy evinced by the English people in the cause of Italy. The toast was drunk with acclamation. General Garibaldi, speaking in English, expressed his gratitude briefly for all the kindness and consideration shown him by the English people, and particularly for their sympathy with his country. England, he added, was the home of freedom and the hope of slaves in all the world. Amongst the subsequent speakers were the Earl of Shaftesbury and the Duke of Argyll. The former spoke of Garibaldi as a man who represented in him-

self all the virtues and qualities that adorned human nature, and who combined the loftiest and most disinterested patriotism with a simplicity of character and a modesty of demeanour never yet united in one single man. And to what was all that due? Not simply to commanding intellect, but to what God had given him, an immense and profound heart, or, as was said in Scripture of that of Solomon, "a heart as vast as the sands of the sea." He was happy in having an opportunity to express in public the heartfelt love he entertained for his character, and he would say for the people of England, that the name of Garibaldi would be a household word among them for all time. (Cheers.) Afterwards, in the drawing-room, each of the guests was presented to the General, who received them seated, a ceremony which lasted some considerable time. The General then returned with the Prime Warden, Wardens, and Court of Assistants to the great hall, where the honorary freedom of the company was presented to him. In acknowledging the gift, he said:—"I am certainly proud to belong to this noble company. I will keep this box as the talisman of my future career in the service of the liberty of the people, and I shall be very grateful to you all my life." With that the ceremony ended, and shortly afterwards the General, accompanied by the Dowager Duchess of Sutherland, the Duchess of Sutherland, and the Duke and Duchess of Argyll, took his departure, and as he did so was enthusiastically cheered by the crowd outside.

On Friday, General Garibaldi breakfasted with a party of American citizens, at the residence of the United States Consul, and subsequently he had the honour of an interview with the Prince of Wales at Stafford House. His Royal Highness had travelled to London specially for the purpose of visiting the General, and he remained with him upwards of an hour.

On Saturday General Garibaldi remained the guest of the Duchess Dowager of Sutherland at her Grace's exquisite villa, Cliefden House, and in the course of the day proceeded by way of Slough to inspect the Royal model farm at Windsor. In the course of his drive he was everywhere enthusiastically received. A number of the farmers offered to present General Garibaldi with a steam-plough as a token of their recognition of his great merits. This offer was made through Mr. Stevens, but the General naively remarked, while thanking his warm-hearted admirers, that his farm only consisted of about twenty-five acres, and that the rest of the island of Caprera was nothing better than barren rock and unproductive mountain, so that a steam-plough, much as he admired its operations, would be of little or no value to himself. In the afternoon Garibaldi and a party of gentlemen went out in boats on the Thames, where they spent a considerable time. Garibaldi expressed himself delighted with the surrounding scenery, and especially with the picturesque appearance of Cliefden from the river.

On Monday Garibaldi started by the Great Western Railway for Cornwall, and was received with much enthusiasm all along the line, especially at Bath and Bristol. He reached Colonel Peard's seat at a late hour, having stayed a few hours at Weymouth to visit the Channel fleet.

On Saturday afternoon a great body of working men had been convened on Primrose-hill, to protest against the manner in which Garibaldi had been induced to leave London. Mr. Edmond Beales had scarcely taken the chair, when a strong body of police were marched to the spot, and insisted that the meeting should disperse. In effect, they drove the people from the hill, and, it is said, behaved with great violence to some of the Working Men's Committee.

The following additional letter respecting Garibaldi's health has been published:—

16, George-street, Hanover-square, W., April 23.
My Lord Duke,—At Mr. Seely's special request I saw General Garibaldi, at Stafford House, within a few hours of his departure from London.

The General declared himself as well as he had ever been since he arrived in England, but on close inquiry admitted fatigue, both of body and brain. My impression was that he looked jaded and worn.

The fatigue associated with his receptions in London might readily have accounted for this; but there was another reason equally urgent. Your Grace will be sorry to learn that he has latterly suffered from boils, and he had two on his left forearm, one of which alone might have made another man give up all his ordinary occupations for a time.

I think it due to your Grace, to Mr. Seely, and others who advised with the General regarding his intended provincial movements, that you should be made acquainted with this, and I hope that your Grace will consider it as a proof that it was not without good reason that I presumed to intrude my first opinion on a subject which was so full of interest to every one.

I have the honour to be, your Grace's most obedient servant,

W. FERGUSSON.

To his Grace the Duke of Sutherland.

The following is the farewell address from Garibaldi to the English nation:—

I offer my heartfelt gratitude and thanks to the English nation and their Government for the reception I have met with in this free land. I came here with the primitive object of thanking them for their sympathy for me and for my country, and this my first object is accomplished. I have desired to be altogether at the disposition of my English friends, and to go to every place where I might be wished to go, but I find that I cannot now fulfil all these engagements of my heart.

If I have caused some trouble and disappointment to many friends, I ask their pardon, but I cannot draw the line between where I could and where I could not go, and therefore for the present these are my thanks and my farewell.

Still, I hope, perhaps at no distant time, to return to see my friends in the domestic life of England, and to redeem some of my engagements with the generous people of this country, which, with deep regret, I feel that I cannot now fulfil.

G. GARIBALDI.

26, Princes-gate, London, April 22.

THE CONFERENCE.

The Plenipotentiaries accredited by the several European Powers to the Conference holden at London with a view to the restoration of peace in the north of Europe met on Monday at one o'clock, in the room prepared for them at the official residence of the First Lord of the Treasury, in Downing-street. All the members appointed to the Conference were present. They were as follows:—Austria—Count Apponyi and Privy-Councillor Biegeleben. France—Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne. England—Earl Russell and the Earl of Clarendon. Prussia—Count Bernstorff and Privy-Councillor Balan, formerly Ambassador at Copenhagen. Russia—Baron Brunnow. Denmark—Baron de Bille, M. Quasde (the Minister), and Councillor Krieger. The German Confederation—M. de Beust, Saxon Minister. Sweden—General Count Wachtmeister. At yesterday's meeting, the Conference did not arrive at any decision as to an armistice. There was a preliminary meeting last Wednesday, but M. von Beust not having then arrived, the representatives of Austria and Prussia did not attend. An adjournment to Monday therefore took place. M. von Beust reached London on Saturday.

Postscript.

Wednesday, April 27, 1864.

THE CONFERENCE.

A Paris letter in the *Indépendance Belge* says:—

Rumours of a transformation of the Conference into a general Congress are current in Paris. France, it was said, intended making important propositions at one of the first sittings, and the supposition is that they would tend to nothing less than to demand a general disarming, which would be a step towards a European Congress. We are not at present prepared to discuss those rumours, but we think it needful to take note of them, because we shall see them renewed more strongly in the course of the Conference, and more particularly when any difficulties arise to impede or momentarily arrest the labours of that assembly.

The *Mémorial Diplomatique* and the other Paris papers give the following as the basis for deliberation which Austria, Prussia, and the German Confederation purpose to bring forward at the Conference now sitting:—

Integrity of the Danish monarchy;
Political and administrative autonomy of the Duchies;
Maintenance of their Union in one single State (*neque sociatis*);
Rendsburg to be made a German Federal fortress as a guarantee of the autonomy and indivisibility of the Duchies.

The Supreme Court of Holstein has passed a resolution, stating that it will fully concur in the declaration of national rights which has been adopted by the members of the Holstein Diet, and it has sent a declaration to that effect to London.

The *Abendpost* (the evening edition of the official *Vienna Gazette*, says: "Although it is scarcely to be expected that Austria and Prussia will agree to the proposal made in yesterday's sitting of the Conference, for the maintenance of the blockade of the German ports during the armistice, yet the negotiations between the Cabinets need not be broken off, nor the friendly relations between the German and Western Powers be subject to any interruption."

The Danish papers still speak in unyielding tones. They insist that resistance to the last must be made in Alesen, as it was behind the Dybbol lines. Nothing that has recently befallen them appears to have altered in the least the determination of the Danish people.

AMERICA.

There is two days' later intelligence from New York by the *Hibernian*, viz., to April 18th.

The Confederates, under Forrest, carried Fort Pillow by assault on the 13th. The struggle was most desperate. It is stated that 400 out of 600 Federals were killed or wounded. The Confederates had removed the ordnance from the post, and were preparing to attack Memphis, which, it was thought, had not an adequate force for its defence. The repossession of Pillow by the Confederates again closes the Mississippi. The Confederates who had occupied Paducah were subsequently shelled out of their position. They afterwards demanded the surrender of the fort, which was refused, the Federals marching out to attack them.

Two hundred Federals have been captured near Alexandria, Louisiana. The streets of Alexandria were barricaded against an attack. The previously reported attack on Alexandria was untrue. The Federal Arkansas expedition was still advancing towards Texas. It had had two successful skirmishes.

The House of Representatives had censured Mr. Long, of Ohio, for declaring himself in favour of the recognition of the Southern Confederation, by 80 to 70. The motion for his expulsion was withdrawn.

There has again been great excitement in the New York money market, in consequence of Mr. Chase's visit. By the last accounts gold was at 71 premium.

YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

THE TUSCALOOSA.

In the House of Lords last night, after several bills had been advanced a stage, Lord CHELMSFORD called attention to the conduct of the Government in respect to the Tuscaloosa. He contended that that conduct had been most improper and undignified. Earl RUSSELL vindicated the Government, and read the Opposition a lesson on the silence which they maintained when evidence of complete justice done by Federal authorities was adduced. Lord KINGSDOWN argued that the seizure of the Tuscaloosa had been wholly illegal. The LORD CHANCELLOR admitted that the course taken was unprecedented, and, as the law officers had said, the case deserved serious consideration—a phrase which had unfortunately not been exactly interpreted by the Duke of Newcastle in his despatch. Subsequently he said a modification of the instructions in the Duke of Newcastle's despatches was under consideration, and when settled would be sent out to our governors and admirals abroad.

Their Lordships adjourned at twenty minutes to eight o'clock.

In the House of Commons a considerable time was occupied in the discussion of matters relating to private business.

NEW ZEALAND.

Mr. A. MILLS called attention to the war in New Zealand. He contended that our policy there was financially ruinous and exterminating to the native race. He especially condemned the confiscation policy of the local Legislature, and moved for the correspondence between Governor Sir George Grey and the Colonial Office on the subject. Mr. C. BUXTON thought the hon. gentleman had taken a very modest view of the ill effects of our policy in New Zealand. He strongly condemned it, and called for a change by which the natives would be more fairly treated. Mr. CARDWELL had no objection to give the papers asked for. He eulogised the natives of New Zealand, but said there could be no doubt that they had entered into a combination for the extermination of the European settlers. He admitted that the Confiscation Acts were too sweeping in their character. There were, however, great difficulties in the way of the disallowance of the acts, the chief of which was that they were already in force. The Government had given instructions to Sir G. Grey to limit the operations of the Acts. He hoped peace would soon be restored. He described the instructions which had been sent out to the Governor, and declared that the Government had only in view the welfare of the colony. Some further discussion followed of an interesting character, and the motion for papers was agreed to.

HARBOURS OF REFUGE.

Mr. LINDSAY moved a resolution to the effect that the recommendations of the commissioners as to the construction of harbours of refuge ought to be carried out. He entered into a number of statistics to show the necessity for the construction of these harbours, and urged that there was no valid excuse for longer delaying the matter. The expense of the construction would be recouped by the receipts on account of them in the course of the first ten years. Mr. CAVE seconded the motion. Sir S. NORTHCOOTE moved an amendment to the effect that the cost, either wholly or in part, of the construction of the harbours should be defrayed by tolls upon shipping. After some discussion Mr. MILNER GIBSON opposed both amendment and original motion. On a division the amendment was lost by 39 votes to 191, and the original motion was also lost by 84 votes to 142.

On the motion of Lord R. MONTAGU, a select committee on the utilisation of metropolitan sewage was ordered.

The other orders were disposed of, and the House adjourned at half-past one o'clock.

GARIBALDI.

PLYMOUTH, April 26.—Addresses were presented to Garibaldi this afternoon, at Penquite House, from the mayors and inhabitants of Plymouth, Devonport, and Bodmin, and from the Plymouth branch of the Polish League. The presenters and a large number of other persons had interviews with the General in the library, where he received them most cordially, warmly shaking their hands. In his replies he said all the nationalities of Europe were friendly to England, because she had no wish to take the property of other nations, as shown in the case of the Ionian Islands.

PLYMOUTH, April 26 (Evening).—Garibaldi's son arrived by express this evening at Par, and joined his father at Penquite. The General will embark at Fowey to-morrow (Wednesday) morning.

Prince Alfred, attended by Major Cowell and Lieut. Haig, left Osborne yesterday afternoon for London, on his way to Dover, where his Royal Highness will embark for the continent.

The Prince will make short visits to Brussels, Hanover, Berlin, Coburg, Darmstadt, and will then proceed to Marseilles, to join her Majesty's ship *Racoon*. Lieut. Haig, of the Royal Engineers, has been appointed by her Majesty to be in attendance on Prince Alfred.

MARK-LANE.—THIS DAY.

The supply of English wheat on offer in to-day's market was small; but the condition of the produce was good. Generally speaking, the trade was slow, yet the prices realised showed no alteration from Monday. With foreign wheat, the market was by no means extensively supplied. For all descriptions, the demand ruled far from active; nevertheless, previous quotations was supported.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"L" and "Noncon." We have no room for correspondence this week.

"An Involuntary Parishioner."—Too late for this week.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 1864.

SUMMARY.

THE Conference now sitting in London with a view to bring about a pacification in the North of Europe has not, for the present at least, been able to agree upon an armistice, in consequence of the opposition of the Danish Government. It is true that Denmark has everything to lose by the decisions of that diplomatic body, but we have yet to learn that she has anything to gain by taking up an attitude of perfectly hopeless resistance. The *Times* therefore appeals to the magnanimity of Austria and Prussia to abstain from further military operations, and thus virtually to establish an armistice; but, thus far, such pleas have been contemptuously disregarded, and it would seem that the new invasion of Jutland, and the re-investment of Fredericia by Prussia, have the entire sanction of the Court of Vienna. We suppose, therefore, the war will go on to the bitter end.

It is very sad to see the Danish Government sacrificing the national army without any adequate purpose. The terrible slaughter at the storming of the Dybbol bastions might have been spared without any slur upon the military honour of the defenders. The details which have come to hand show that the result was fully anticipated by the Danish troops. Their position was so untenable that permission was asked by telegraph to Copenhagen to withdraw the army defending the half-ruined forts to the Island of Als under cover of darkness. But the answer was given that "Dybbol should be held at any price"—an answer given apparently in opposition to the better sense of King Christian's Ministers, and in deference to popular feeling. In consequence of this fatal decision the bastions of Dybbol were easily captured in an hour by the irresistible Prussians, by whose murderous artillery thousands of Danes were killed and wounded; and of the entire Scandinavian army not more than one-half remains to occupy Als till driven out or captured by the victorious Germans.

While we hear of the Alexandra steamer being restored to her owners in consequence of the decision of the law courts, two more cases have come before the legal tribunals of the country, which will test the efficacy of the Foreign Enlistment Act. It may be remembered that some time since the Rappahannock sloop of war, (then the *Scylla*) was sold by the Admiralty, bought by Confederate agents, and sufficiently refitted by some dockyard officials to enable the vessel to sail away to Calais, and assume the character of a belligerent cruiser. Mr. Rumball, a dockyard official, who was chiefly implicated in this transaction, was to have been tried on Monday before the grand jury of Middlesex, but the case was postponed. The other question which awaits legal judgment is more complicated. A number of men took passage on board a New York vessel, the *Gerrity*, at Matamoras, and on the voyage seized the captain and crew as Confederate prisoners, and cast them adrift in a boat. Three of the men engaged in this daring enterprise found their way to England, and they have been arrested at the instance of the American Minister, and now lie in Liverpool gaol. Mr. Adams

demands their surrender under the provisions of the Extradition Treaty; and the Court of Queen's Bench has to determine whether the seizure of the *Gerrity* was an act of piracy, in which case the men must be handed over to the Federal Government, or a legitimate belligerent transaction, which would prevent the demand of the American Minister from being complied with.

The net result of the reform conference at Manchester is the formation of a National R-form Association, with its headquarters in that city, to agitate the country in favour of a rating suffrage, vote by ballot, &c. We have yet to learn what plan of operations the new Society intend to pursue, and to what extent they are likely to be provided with resources to carry on an expensive movement. Next month Mr. Baines will test the feeling of the House of Commons on his proposal to extend the borough franchise to 6l. householders. We can hardly anticipate success for the motion in the present apathetic state of Parliament and the country, but the new organisation may do good service in indoctrinating the electoral body with reform principles, prior to the coming General Election.

General Grant has taken the field at the head of the largest Federal army ever collected in America, and is said to have concerted a grand scheme for driving the Confederates out of Virginia, and simultaneously advancing against Richmond from the Rapidan, the Peninsula, and North Carolina. The Federals are, as usual, confident of success, but it remains to be seen whether the able and experienced Confederate commander, General Lee, is unable to frustrate this formidable, but perhaps too elaborate, plan of operations. In the west the Federals continue to suffer reverses; and Fort Pillow, in the Mississippi, has fallen into the hands of the Confederates. Words in favour of separation between North and South have been heard in Congress, but the indignant House of Representatives, hardly restrained from expelling the advocates of disunion, have passed upon them a formal censure.

THE PROSPECTS OF EUROPE IN REGARD TO PEACE.

OUR readers, we suspect, not less than ourselves, are weary of the Dano-German question. It is in itself uninteresting. Nothing but political passion, exacerbated on both sides by obstinacy of will, could have raised it into importance. The war which has sprung out of it has been prosecuted by Austria and Prussia in a spirit of unscrupulous aggression such as we have not witnessed in modern times—and the resistance of the Danes has been carried to a pitch of self-sacrifice far beyond what the commonly accepted code of national honour rendered necessary. There has been a most revolting and fruitless expenditure of blood and treasure. There seems to be a determination on the part of Prussia to follow up instantly the successful siege of Dybbol by overrunning Jutland, and capturing Fredericia. Military vanity is pushing its schemes to the uttermost extremity of injustice, without a thought of the future, and a half-crazy King and a thoroughly reckless Minister are flinging about their firebrands as if intent upon kindling a European conflagration. We devoutly hope that the Conference which assembled yesterday will have a more successful as well as a speedier issue than diplomacy has showed its ability to achieve of late. We are unwilling to believe that it will be wholly baulked—but we must confess to our impatience to realise the first important proposal the plenipotentiaries will have to discuss—to wit, the establishment of an armistice between the belligerents, so as to allow incandescent passions to get moderately cool.

Naturally enough, rumour is busy in diffusing throughout Europe all sorts of information, the trustworthiness of which is by no means equal to the confidence with which it is announced. We are told, for instance, by the *Mémorial Diplomatique*, and by others of the Paris journals, that Austria, Prussia, and the German Confederation will bring forward, as the basis of the deliberations of the Conference, the following points:—1. The integrity of the Danish Monarchy. 2. The political and administrative autonomy of the Duchies. 3. The maintenance of their union in one single State. 4. The conversion of Rendsburg into a German Federal fortress as a guarantee of the autonomy and indivisibility of the Duchies. There is an air of verisimilitude about this scheme which leads us to infer that it has not improbably been agreed upon as the most feasible one which could be urged by the German Powers. It virtually detaches Schleswig as well as Holstein from all but a personal or dynastic connection with Denmark. It will moderately satisfy the wishes of the Germans in regard to the complete nationality

of their race—and it will flatter the *amour propre* of the German Confederation. It will, moreover, pay public respect to the validity of European treaties. Of course, the Danes will object to it—but, unless they have made up their minds to the total extinction of their monarchy as a preferable alternative to its virtual dismemberment, they will be compelled to submit to the decision of the Conference, which may, or may not, see in these proposals a practical solution of a most perplexing problem.

A less likely rumour, but one which, if it have any foundation in fact, is of much greater importance in its bearing, is broached in a Paris letter to the *Indépendance Belge*. It hints at a transformation of the Conference into a general Congress. France, it is said, contemplates making important propositions at one of the first sittings tending to a general disarming as a preparation for a European Congress. The writer declines to discuss the rumours prevalent in Paris, although he deems it useful to take note of them, assigning as his reason that they will probably be renewed more strongly in the course of the Conference, and more particularly when any difficulties arise to impede or momentarily arrest the labours of that assembly. This is vague enough—so vague that we should not have thought it worth while to give it prominence, but that it indicates a certain amount of latent opinion and feeling in the metropolis of France, which we shall rejoice to see further developed, and from the mere existence of which we may be allowed to conjecture that the face of the Emperor and of his Government is, for the present at least, steadily set towards peace. This conjecture is undoubtedly strengthened by several collateral circumstances. It is not impossible that Lord Clarendon may have been authorised by her Majesty's Ministers to soothe away the Emperor's irritation at the rejection of his proposals for a Congress, by admitting that it would be preferable to a European war, and that hearty co-operation between the Western Powers in bringing the Conference to a successful issue, might remove some of the practical impediments they foresaw to the wider and more important project which had been laid before them by his Imperial Majesty. At any rate, it is no secret that Earl Clarendon was successful in dispelling the chill which had seized upon the Emperor's mind in regard to the Government of this country—and he is not usually understood to have so flexible a will as would admit of its being moulded by mere diplomatic flattery. If he ever seriously contemplated a general reduction of armaments, as he professed to do in his speech to the Legislative Assemblies, he has probably determined not to be baffled by a first disappointment. He is patient to wait for the change of the tide—he is skilful to seize upon favouring opportunities—and, it may be, that he has been encouraged to see in the present Conference, an opening in the direction of that grander result towards which his own rejected proposition pointed.

All this, it may be said, is bare surmise. It is—but then it has been originated in a quarter whence we seldom look for surmises of a pacific character. It fits in, moreover, with a number of facts which otherwise appear unusual and devoid of purpose. It may prove nothing as to what the Emperor contemplates doing at the Conference—but it does prove that the guesses of those who watch him closely aim at pacific rather than warlike results. And this is a most gratifying and important feature in the prospects of Europe. If France and her adopted ruler are bent upon effecting a real and appreciable reduction in the armaments of the Great Powers, the thing can be done. It is no longer Utopian. It takes its place in the category of practicable enterprises. One is glad to hear even a rumour that such a project still holds a place in Napoleon's mind, for he is the likeliest man in Europe to nurse it into a reality. It is not at all necessary to conclude that it will be formally submitted to the present assembly of plenipotentiaries. The opportunity may, after all, be deemed unfavourable. But we cannot dismiss the rumour as worthless merely because it is vague—and whether it reappears immediately in a more authentic shape or not, it is probably the little cloud rising out of the sea which will ultimately overspread the political firmament.

GARIBALDI'S DEPARTURE.

It is most unfortunate, to say the least, that the departure of Garibaldi from the shores of England, has been brought about by circumstances which have tended to create a very general suspicion that political influences have been brought to bear upon him to secure that result. On a retrospect of all that has come under our notice, and sensible of the responsibility we incurred last week by the statement we then

made, we feel bound to give the frankest expression to the convictions which further information has left upon our minds. We acquit her Majesty's Government, then, of any formal resolution to hurry General Garibaldi's return. We are disposed to believe that concern for the illustrious patriot's health, mingled with a misgiving that his projected tour in the provinces might impair the effect of the metropolitan demonstration, was the dominant motive of the friends by whom he was surrounded to urge his retirement. We accept Mr. Gladstone's statement to the House of Commons as a veracious exposition of what influenced his own conduct. We admit also the explanation given by the Earl of Shaftesbury in his letter to the *Times*. But we cannot but remark that neither of them has denied that, during the conversation with General Garibaldi on Sunday evening, remarks were dropped by some individual, supposed to speak with sufficient authority on the point, tending to convey to his mind the idea that his absence just now would fall in with the public convenience regarded from an international point of view—nor that Garibaldi yielded to this hint what he was unwilling to yield to other representations. We cannot help observing, moreover, that the General himself, who, with a single word, might have dispelled unfounded suspicion, and whose character is the best guarantee that he would have done so if he could have done so truly, refrained to the last from intimating that political reasons had nothing whatever to do with his determination, although he was made fully cognisant of the fact that such was the suspicion of a large class of the people, and although he had more than one opportunity, not only admitting of, but calling for, such a disclaimer.

All things considered, we are not sorry that Garibaldi has not persisted in fulfilling the round of engagements which he had taken upon himself, in utter ignorance of the drain which they would establish upon his energies and health. Nay, we will go further, and admit that if any well-informed adviser of his had reason to believe that his absence from England just at this moment would tend to brighten the prospect of concluding peace between the German Powers and Denmark, by removing some causes of irritation from the minds of certain of the plenipotentiaries who have met in Conference, we see no reason for condemning the expression of his belief, nor for thinking the worse of Garibaldi for giving heed to it. On the contrary, we can honour the motive uppermost on both sides. Taking for granted that no foreign Power required any arrangement of the kind, and that what may have been said was said on individual authority, and not on the authority of the British Government as such, we discern no good ground for indignation, that deep concern for European peace should prompt in any one a wish to bring about the removal of what may have been thought to render it less practicable. We know not that there is anything to be ashamed of in the fact. It may have been an error of judgment, and we think it was—but we should only have thought more highly of the man who, having dropped the hint into the disinterested mind of Garibaldi, had shown his moral courage by accepting the responsibility of having done so, and by taking upon himself the care to clear others from unfounded suspicion. As the matter now stands, we are compelled by our regard to truth to say that, in our judgment, part of the facts has been suppressed—that part, namely, which, if revealed, would instantly have laid suspicion, and that the conjectures of the public, even if exaggerated and untrue in form, rested upon a basis of fact which has been unwisely concealed behind a veil of reticence.

As if to add to the misfortune of the *imbroglio* comes the dispersion of the out-door meeting by the police on Saturday last. It seems that a general order has been given to the police force to prevent the holding of public meetings of any kind in the metropolitan parks and recreation grounds, as tending to interfere with the main object for which such places have been set apart at the public expense. It seems also that the Commissioner of Public Works had authorised an exception to this rule on Saturday in order to allow the working men to plant on Primrose-hill an oak in memory of Shakspeare, and, to maintain order, had despatched thither a considerable body of police. The ceremony having been brought to a close, a public meeting, previously advertised, was formed to protest against Garibaldi's abrupt departure. No warning was given to the committee who had arranged for it, that the meeting was technically illegal, and would be dispersed. The chairman was permitted to take his place, and to commence his speech. Then followed a formidable irruption of the police. The chairman was bidden to desist—the meeting to disperse—and, but for the earnest and reiterated entreaties of the members of the City Reception Committee, the angry feeling of the crowd, exasperated by the

rough demeanour of the constabulary, might easily have showed itself in a serious riot. Neither the Home Secretary, the Commissioner of Public Works, nor Sir Richard Mayne, the Commissioner of Police, had authorised this most unwise intervention. The inspector had taken upon himself to act on his own responsibility, and probably supposed that his courage would commend him to his superiors. Instead of that, it has done untold mischief, by giving a fresh and deeper tinge to the suspicions of the working people that the Ministry are intent upon upsetting all their plans, and frustrating the most earnest of all their desires. It has also increased the jealousy of the people lest the constitutional right of public meeting for the discussion of grievances should be encroached upon.

If the visit of Garibaldi has had an unfortunate termination, it is due, we think, to the finessing tactics of the gentlemen who surrounded him. That they meant kindly we have no doubt—but if they had honestly disclosed to the public all that they did and said, they might, indeed, have provoked some censure, but they would not have raised about themselves a cloud of suspicion.

NOTES OF THE SESSION.

DURING the past week the Lords have vindicated their claims—somewhat kept in abeyance during the first part of the Session—as legislators for the country. The Earl of Ellenborough has mustered courage to propose a measure for diminishing the painful responsibility of the Home Secretary in deciding on appeals against the capital sentence, by extending it to all the members of the Cabinet. This practice was indeed observed before the accession of our present Sovereign, and would probably lead to a remission of the sentence of death more frequently than is at present the case. But the various proposals in respect to the prerogative of mercy, which have been made this Session, show the increasing difficulty of carrying out the death penalty, and will furnish Mr. Ewart with a powerful argument in his forthcoming motion for its entire abolition.

Law reform was not so fascinating a subject as to draw so crowded a House of Peers, and full benches of ladies to the gilded chamber on Thursday night; nor could Lord Chelmsford imagine that this unusual assemblage had been brought together to listen to his speech on the failure of the Land Transfer Act. Ere he had uttered many sentences the mystery was explained. A rush of members from the Lower House to the bar heralded the approach of Garibaldi in his picturesque grey poncho. It was a sad trial of senatorial dignity. The peers tried not to notice the illustrious intruder, but the effort was painfully severe. While pretending to listen to the ex-Chancellor, they were casting sidelong glances at Garibaldi, and some of the least careful of deportment stole away to give him a greeting. Perhaps out of mercy to their lordships, the Italian hero remained only some five minutes, and with him—must it be recorded?—the greater part of the Assembly left the House. The incident is one of the most striking proofs of the unprecedented interest in Garibaldi, which has been manifested by all, from the highest to the lowest, of her Majesty's subjects.

But the question brought on by Lord Chelmsford is one of real interest to the landed proprietors of the country. He complained that the Land Transfer Act had proved a great delusion. Since it passed in 1862 only 54 applications had been made for registering the titles to estates, and there was a considerable establishment maintained at the public expense with scarcely any work to do. The Lord Chancellor denied that the measure was a failure, any more than other Law Reforms, which were at first slow in operation, but had ultimately proved highly successful. Landowners were the slaves of their family solicitors—the familiars of every estate—who fought very strenuously for their vested rights. For five shillings an estate might be registered, and a short title obtained safer than could be secured by endless sheets of parchment, scored with unintelligible legal jargon. Lord Westbury can only suggest that some better remuneration should be made to solicitors who are the great obstacles to the success of the Act. But if noble landowners prefer to be mulcted a heavy annual charge by their legal advisers, it is their own choice. The Lord Chancellor believes, probably with truth, that this valuable Law Reform will come into general operation spite of all obstructions, and hopes to be remembered hereafter specially as the author of the Land Transfer Act.

The Earl of Derby has been trying to remedy a serious evil. The increase of railways in London has led to the wholesale demolition of the dwellings of working men, and they cannot live in the suburbs on account of the cost of transit.

His Lordship, therefore, proposes that it shall be obligatory on all new metropolitan railway companies to run a morning and evening train at a charge of not more than one penny per journey. The proposal was received with general favour and adopted. It is hardly likely that the result will be great. There is little disposition on the part of capitalists to build workmen's dwellings in suburban districts, and our industrial classes have considerable objection to go outside of London, notwithstanding the prevalent overcrowding. But a change on both sides may take place, though it may be supposed that railway companies would voluntarily provide the required facilities whenever it can be made to pay. To increase the decent accommodation of the working classes within the boundaries of London, is, however, a more pressing necessity, and it is satisfactory to know that very much, though still quite inadequate to the full requirements of the case, is being done in that direction.

The first, and probably the only serious attempt to disturb the integrity of Mr. Gladstone's Budget was made on Thursday evening. In lieu of the reduction of the fire insurance on stock in trade, Mr. Sheridan proposed a uniform reduction of one shilling per cent. on all descriptions of property liable to that tax. The Chancellor of the Exchequer opposed it as sweeping away the surplus which had been retained after the recent remissions, and leaving the Government in the position of "financial beggars." Though Mr. Disraeli found an ingenious reason for supporting the amendment, it was rejected by a majority of 53. The Budget may now be considered to have passed through its greatest danger.

Later in the evening, the Opposition rallied to the support of Sir M. Farquhar, who proposed that the select committee to consider the Government Annuities Bill should have power to send for "persons, papers, and records," which would be equivalent to postponing the measure for the present Session. It was necessary for Lord Palmerston to come to the aid of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and eventually the motion was rejected by 127 to 104, amid loud Ministerial cheers. The object of the committee will now simply be to settle the clauses of the Bill.

Friday night in the Commons was devoted to China. Mr. Liddell, who has been seeking opportunity all the Session to have a full discussion of our policy in the Celestial Empire, moved a resolution deprecating further interference in the civil war that rages in that distant country as impolitic and unnecessary. Here was a good chance for the Opposition to make some political capital. But it was not embraced; and Mr. Liddell made his long and informing, though somewhat prosy speech, to almost empty benches. Mr. Layard was ready with an elaborate reply, and his usual stock of flippancy. He said, for instance, that he would have replied to a statement of Professor Goldwin Smith had not that accomplished writer "reduced his authority to the lowest level." We should hardly have thought that any Minister of the Crown would have descended to this style of coarse abuse. Mr. Forster, in a pithy speech, exposed the inconsistent and dangerous policy of our Government in China, who were carrying on a private war on behalf of the Imperialists; and he plainly charged them with being, to some extent, the cause of the anarchy which prevailed in that country, having so far weakened the central authority as to render possible the rebellion that had occurred. The member for Bradford clearly showed that there was no alternative in China between non-intervention and conquest, and that the result of trying to get certain advantages without the inconveniences of war had compromised, if not inextricably involved, England in Chinese affairs. But these considerations, no party issues being involved, are of no account in the present House of Commons; and scarcely had Mr. Ferrand launched out into one of his intemperate speeches than the debate was cut short by a count-out.

Mr. Cardwell has begun his administration of colonial affairs with great credit. In a debate raised last night by Mr. A. Mills on the confiscation policy in New Zealand, he stated that it was the intention of the Home Government to limit and restrain the operation of the Acts passed by the local Legislature, "within the bounds of equity and justice." There is to be no indiscriminate confiscation of native land as proposed by the Colonial Acts, but only the guilty are to suffer; and every deprivation of territory is to receive the previous sanction of the Governor. A commission is to investigate each case of confiscation as well as compensation, and when peace is restored, a measure is to be brought before the Assembly of New Zealand for bringing to an early termination the powers of the Act, and the Governor will issue a proclamation of an amnesty. We believe that these arrangements will satisfy the more reasonable of the colonists.

COMMEMORATIVE FESTIVALS.

We must plead guilty to the charge of heresy, we fear, as to a great deal that passes amongst us for reasonable custom. We are not quite sound in the faith as it respects commemorations, whether local or national. Many of our popular preachers, as our readers are well aware, place a Scriptural text at the head of a discourse, not for the purpose of illustrating it—that is, the text—but that it may serve as a graceful vignette to the train of argument or reflection which it precedes; or as, on certain occasions, a bouquet of flowers is fixed in front of the locomotive which draws after it the carriages of an illustrious visitor and his suite. There is no real connection between the two things, or, if any, an extremely indirect one; but it seems to be taken for granted that the text claims for the sermon a little more serious attention than would otherwise be given to it, and transfixes through a string of remarks that may not themselves be remarkable a higher sanction than naturally belongs to them. The names of great men, and the dates of memorable events, are frequently made use of in a similar way, to give a seeming justification to proceedings which can plead nothing derivable either from their nature or their uses in their own behalf. While admitting, however, we trust with becoming humility, our dissent from the orthodox creed on this head, we protest against being classed with the wholly and hopelessly reprobate. We do not disbelieve in commemorations altogether, as we shall presently show, but we suspect that a great many of them are intended mainly to raise as large an amount as possible of public excitement for private ends.

When men are asked to devote a week or even a day to the festive celebration of an event or a name, it is reasonable for them to ask, *cui bono*? Some of our sentimentalists will, doubtless, listen with contempt to this cold, utilitarian question. Be it so—nevertheless, we should be disposed to press for an answer. What is the service which the commemoration is expected to perform, and to whom? Let it not be said that no sufficient reply can be given to such an inquiry in any case. There have been events in the history of every civilised country, the periodic commemoration of which is instantly recognised by common sense as of high use. There have also been persons whose deeds cannot be publicly called to mind by the public without advantage to the national character. In all such instances, however, it is not with a view to the dead, but to the living, that memorials are instituted. And it may fairly be expected that every historical fact or name into the light of which a people is invited to come simultaneously and sun themselves, shall be such as may leave some practical impress upon their character, social, moral, political, or religious. Wherever such a result is contemplated, and the commemorative festival is calculated to lead to that result, the means and the end equally commend themselves to the judgment.

If, now, we were asked what present or future benefit this nation or the world may hope to derive from the celebration of the tricentenary of Shakespeare's birthday, we should confess ourselves unable to give a satisfactory reply. We can easily see how it may be made to minister to the advantage of Stratford-on-Avon—but that is not the question. Any attempt to make the great dramatic bard better known by means of banquets, pageants, speechifying, and pyrotechnical displays, is supremely ridiculous—still more so, if possible, to commend him by any such appliances to the veneration and affection of his countrymen. It resembles nothing so much as a general illumination in the noontide of a blazing Midsummer's day. The genius of Shakespeare has already placed itself far beyond the reach of this kind of illustration. His wisdom, his wit, his melody, his infinite variety, his marvellous intuition, his transcendent poetical power, have helped, in various known and unknown ways, to form the mind of every educated man and woman in the kingdom. He is the choice companion of every one that reads—and, from youth upwards, all of us, without need of machinery to lift us to a fitting stage of elevation, have laughed with him, wept with him, mused with him, soared with him, and with him have "glided from heaven to earth, from earth to heaven." We honour him daily. We are perpetually beholden to him for our most significant and emphatic utterances. He colours our sentiments. He tinges our speech. His spirit has entered into our spirit. He belongs to no party—to no country. His works are the common but precious property of the race. It verges upon impertinence to praise him. What can a formal commemoration do for the name of such a man? Will it add an atom to his influence? Can any of us, or

all of us together, do aught for Shakespeare which he has not already done much better for himself? Can we raise the pedestal of his fame by the lowest fractional part of an inch?

If our poet could be vulgarised, a commemorative festival is admirably adapted to do it. The profoundest homage of a nation's mind and heart is that which it expresses spontaneously, silently, almost unconsciously. What "master of ceremonies" is competent to frame a worthy programme of a national celebration in his honour? One can understand a Pitt dinner, a Fox dinner, or, if you will, a Wilberforce, a Grey, or a Cobden dinner, at which the guests might assemble for the revival in themselves, or for the promulgation among others, of any given principles of conduct. But a banquet in memory of Shakespeare!—"faugh! the offence is rank, and smells to heaven." No speaking can redeem it from essential meanness and impropriety—least of all the "weary, stale, flat and unprofitable" speaking which usually follows the long list of traditional toasts, and which, as a matter of course, preponderates at every public dinner. What is there, for instance, in the Army and Navy, more than in the Universities and Schools, or in the Bishops and Clergy more than in the Ministers of all Denominations, that honour should be specially done to them in connection with the name of William Shakespeare? Must we trail after it in deference to conventional rules, our professional and sectarian predilections and prejudices as part of the ceremony by which we seek to do him honour? Then we may be confident that we have selected an inapposite method of expressing our desire. The incongruity jars upon good taste—this giving "to party" . . . "what was meant for mankind." Cliques cannot comprehend the catholicity of Shakespeare's genius, and, therefore, cannot fitly commemorate him—and the cliques which can mount upon his pedestal and prate to the world below of his name, only makes itself ridiculous by contrast.

But we have suffered ourselves to be drawn somewhat aside of our object by the follies that are being perpetrated at Stratford under the broad covert of Shakespeare's name; and herein are proving that editors as well as preachers are apt enough to treat their texts merely as decorative mottoes. What we meant to say, at starting, was that commemorative occasions are simply superfluous, and sometimes mischievous, unless they enwrap in themselves an obvious moral, or, at any rate, carry us on to a suitable ultimate purpose. Now, judged of by this rule, it appears to us that poetical genius does not admit of festive celebration. Patriotism does, philanthropy does, religious self-sacrifice does, a Providential interposition for the safety or the progress of nations does—because the atmosphere which is evolved by the commemorative ceremonies penetrates into countless minds, starts appropriate impulses, quickens noble sympathies, and promotes the growth of healthy national character. But a great poet—especially a transcendent poet like Shakespeare—is inimitable precisely in those attributes which constitute his greatness, and the community gets no other result from a public glorification of his name than the indulgence of its own vanity. We will not go into an analysis of the motives which too commonly lie at the bottom of these so-called commemorative festivals. They are seldom of the most exalted kind. It may suffice to remark that they usually bring grist, either of meal or of malt, to some folks' mills, and that there the real advantage of them ends. Society, we are glad to observe, is setting its face against this method of desecrating great names by turning them into a trading stock for obscure but ambitious men. We hope we shall have no more of it, for it has about it a pungent smell of the shop.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE TRICENTENARY OF SHAKESPEARE'S BIRTH fairly began on Saturday. The players may be said to have taken the lead, for they supped together at the Freemasons' Tavern after midnight on Friday. In the afternoon of Saturday there was an immense gathering of working men on Primrose-hill, where Mr. Phelps planted an oak in commemoration of the birthday of Shakespeare. Some other speeches were also delivered. In the evening a large audience assembled in the Agricultural Hall to listen to some good music well rendered. At the Crystal Palace the entertainment was manifold, appropriate, and excellent. There were also performances of Shakespeare's plays, in whole or in part, at most of the theatres. At Stratford-upon-Avon the labours of the committee were rewarded with thorough success. A brilliant company assembled in the pavilion which has been erected, and, under the presidency of Lord Carlisle, sat down to a splendid banquet. Lord Carlisle spoke a panegyric of the poet, and the proceedings were of an interesting character. On Saturday the Archbishop of Dublin preached in the parish church of that town, and on Monday there was a grand performance.

Anniversaries.

THE BAPTIST UNION.

The annual session of the Baptist Union was held on Monday in the Baptist Library, Moorgate-street. The chair was taken by the Rev. J. P. Mursell, of Leicester, and there was a very good attendance of ministers and brethren.

A devotional service was held at ten o'clock, and lasted for about half-an-hour.

THE CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS.

The CHAIRMAN read the following address:—

Permit me, Gentlemen and Christian Brethren, to ask your attention to a brief paper on recent events, and on the obligations they appear to me to impose.

Since the last session of the Baptist Union, circumstances have transpired which have filled thousands among us with surprise, which are destined sooner or later to be productive of momentous results, and which will occupy a conspicuous place in the historic story of the day.

"Essays and Reviews."

Some time ago, a volume known by the name of "Essays and Reviews" appeared, the production of men of distinction and position, which was widely circulated and read. This is not an occasion for pronouncing an opinion on the merits of these works, for criticising their respective or comparative literary claims, otherwise than just to observe that they present us with the results of daring, rather than of profound thought, and tend to undermine the foundations of our faith and to prejudice those views of Divine truth which are held sacred by the great evangelical school. These papers, written by gentlemen holding official stations in the Endowed Church, occasioned, very naturally, much commotion among the members of that institution. The charge of heresy was preferred against one of the authors, and argued before the suitable judicial tribunal, and after a long and learned investigation, the writers of the objectionable works were acquitted of having published anything which legally disqualified them for holding official place in the communion they preferred.

The members of the Baptist body would be the last persons in her Majesty's dominions to abridge the right of private judgment, to limit the freest circulation of opinion, or to arraign the decision of the highest court in the realm. They are accustomed to regard the jurisprudence of the country, whether in its principles or its administration, as being, with all its defects, among the brightest ornaments and strongest bulwarks of the land. They may, in their fanaticism, anticipate the arrival of a day in which lords spiritual and civil, grave lawyers, and graver divines, will not be required to sit in solemn conclave and decide on the merits of Christian doctrine by prayer-books, and articles, and homilies—the compilations of men—rather than by the unerring Word of God.

But what appears so strange to those of us who are not within the favoured pale, who stand outside the fence within which the great pugilists contend, is, that the opinions broached by the Essayists, and embraced by their admirers, should be received as though they were novel,—that notions as old as the Gnostics, gathered up and put into systematic form in a later age by Faustus Socinus, which have periodically bewildered the great dreamers of Germany and haunted like pale ghosts the purlieus of the Church of God in all times, should be treated as a vision, as the discovery of more than usually enlightened and pious minds. It is recorded of the Gibeonites, in olden times, that "they put old shoes and clouted upon their feet, and old garments upon them; and all the bread of their provision was dry and mouldy."

It appears to us an anomaly that such opinions should be promulgated within the precincts of a Church whose creed, services, and sacraments are prepared for it, stereotyped and imposed by authority,—within which no one who ministers at its altars can legally change a petition or introduce a collect. Such a deviation from recognised standards would not be tolerated in the free churches of the land. Any pulpit among Dissenting communities, which should be the seat and centre of contradictory tenets, of doctrines as varied in their import as human fickleness could render them, would soon be purified from its inconsistency, or the preacher would become as one crying in the wilderness. Is the Established Church, as it is sometimes vauntingly called, to be the most unstable and equivocal preceptress in the realm?

But the strangeness of the spectacle grows upon us, as we observe those who hold the tenets so openly avowed, retaining their connection with the Church. If the thunders of the law cannot disturb, the whispers of conscience might admonish. Secession from any community is open to us all, and moreover is eminently graceful when our sympathies with it are impaired. But division is a vice, and one we have been accustomed to associate with vulgar or envenomed minds. We have a right to think as we please, but we have no right to sow discord in the bosom of an associated community. It is easy to frame palliatives for such a course, and to dress them in plausible guise, but sensitive honour and true nobility of nature recoil alike from the sin and its excuse. It is the obvious duty of those who conscientiously imbibe opinions at variance with those retained

by the body they may for a season have approved and served, to leave that body in uninterrupted possession of the doctrines and practice it prefers. Dissenters from the English Church have been denounced as schismatics, but this is the name proper to those, whatever their rank or pretensions, who, renouncing her leading tenets, still continue within her pale. Attempts are made to cover this policy under the veil of independency of thought. None of us would interfere with the entire freedom which this phrase implies—we claim it for ourselves, and courteously and heartily concede it to others; but let us take the penalty with the privilege. Others exercise their thoughts as well as we. If the great majority of those with whom I have been accustomed to unite in the way of instituted fellowship, see that my ideas on matters vital to its healthful and harmonious continuance are utterly at variance with theirs, and I readily admit it, and yet I cleave to the fellowship—if I cease to sustain those views and truths which I was solemnly sworn to build up, but yet I remain in the communion I am doing my utmost to destroy; this is not independency, but licentiousness, of thought. When men take to thinking through the medium of their desires, they are in danger of leaving the braiding region of independency, and of straying into the relaxing precincts of expediency.

Like all other innovators, these gentlemen give us nothing in return for that which they take away. Treading in the footsteps of their school, they follow the path of negative theology, a course which, when once entered, it is not usual to forsake, and which opens out into wide but most dreary wastes. They quietly, moreover, ignore the thinkers and writers who have preceded them. Grotius, Lardner, Warburton, Whitby, Howe, Owen, with the galaxy to which they belong, are left in the oblivion which awaits all who reject the philosophy of a progressive Christianity, who believe that as a scheme of truth it is perfect, sufficient, and divine. Yet, strange to say, these enlightened instructors who would be the guides of others, do not agree among themselves, but indicate varying attainments in their new researches, so that it is difficult to choose among them, or to decide at whose feet to sit. They agree only in removing the ancient landmarks, and indulging in conjectures of their own.

The Evangelical Party in the Church.

The state of affairs is rendered the more complex by the presence of a large and exemplary body of evangelical labourers in the bosom of the Church. It is not for us as lookers-on to dictate to these gentlemen the path they should pursue. They can best appreciate the difficulties as well as the responsibilities of their position. Should the voice summoning them to separation wax louder and become increasingly distinct, we have too high an opinion of the great body of them to suppose that the endowments they inherit would render them deaf to its appeal. The self-sacrifice involved in such a course would meet with an ample reward, and the material benefits relinquished be more than compensated by those which would be speedily created. The hope of amendment may lead them to hesitate to rend themselves from the institution they adorn—a hope, however, which, as the memorable decision of the Privy Council, rests, in our opinion, on very slender grounds. When the Queen, as its head, decides through her highest Court that every variety of religious opinion may be held by those who take orders in the Episcopal Church, the door is thrown open by a hand which no inferior power can paralyse, and it needs no great sagacity to see that less regard than ever will be had to doctrinal tenets by those who seek admission to its pulpits. If the latitudinarian ground taken in the "Essays and Reviews" be pronounced legally consistent with the subscription, oaths, and solemn asseverations which meet the novice on the very threshold of the Church—if Episcopal ordination, with the prestige of apostolical descent, can be enjoyed by those who hold doctrines of which the Apostles never dreamt, and deny those which these inspired teachers conveyed, he must be sanguine indeed who sees, notwithstanding all this, a prospect of improvement. No, there is in it the presage of increasing spiritual decay—"a kingdom divided against itself cannot stand." The light of example bright and strong is not wanting to guide thoughtful and conscientious men amidst their embarrassments. Who among them can forget the early Reformers?—or affect to ignore the Puritan Fathers?—or fail to call to mind a Whitfield and a Wesley?—or wipe from his memory the more recent imposing secession in the North? Is there, in the sons of the English Church, no spark of that spirit which kindled into high and holy resolve in the breasts of a Chalmers, a Candlish, a Guthrie, and others? Nor need the fear of results detain them from taking this momentous step, when the time, in their opinion, has come; for a free Episcopal Church, with its ceremonial, its liturgy, and a purified ministry, would be a popular institution, would attract to itself both wealth and intelligence, and neutralise a large portion of the Nonconformity of the realm.

Gravity of our Position.

But we have not so much to do with the duties of others, as with those which are incumbent on ourselves. In looking, then, at the strange features which spread themselves around us, it becomes us *rightly to estimate their gravity*. No one with the slightest pretensions to true religious sympathies can be a listless spectator of the great ecclesiastical drama which is passing on every hand. If there be those who are disposed to regard it as a dreamy thing, as a transient and passing pageant, they may trace their mistake in the interest it has awakened and in the glee it has occasioned among the avowed enemies of evangelical truth; that its stage, its characters, and its scenery, are not unreal but substantial, is indicated by the delight with which these parties prognosticate that the age of what they call bigotry is on the wane. Certainly, if we look at society through the medium of the Endowed Church, with its rampant rationalism on the one hand, and its equally assertive sacerdotalism on the other, with the mixed elements which fill up the intervening ground, and observe at the same time what is passing without, we must infer that the tendency of the time is to laxity of principle, to an utter repudiation in the instance of religion of all that is positive, definite, and abiding, and to the ushering in of a day of indiscriminating indiffer-

ence. If the recent sale of livings, the bartering of the souls of men under the highest sanction in the kingdom, with the late decision of the Privy Council, fail to shock the moral sensibilities of the nation, we must have already made most ominous strides towards general torpor and death. There is, moreover, a presiding secular spirit obtruding itself upon us in relation to spiritual things. A forgetfulness of propriety, of becoming reserve, and of an appropriately dignified demeanour with regard to them has been considered hitherto as belonging exclusively to the lower strata of Dissent, to that fanatical class which has been regarded as the dregs of secession. This unenviable notoriety is no longer confined within such limits, but the most solemn verities are beginning to be treated in high places with a flippancy which would be unbecoming far inferior themes. The most awful mysteries of our faith are bandied about by ecclesiastical notabilities, and by the potentates of a political hierarchy, with a total disregard of true refinement, to say nothing of the absence of the profound reverence which they claim. The pages of the newspaper are now and again rendered the vehicles of unseemly strifes, and of embittered discussions, on subjects which fill the thoughtful mind with indescribable awe. Commercial advertisements and great Christian dogmas are found in juxtaposition, the exchange and the eternal destinies of men jostle each other and take a common level. There is a sort of spiritual Vandalism abroad, before whose withering touch all that is sacred shrivels and dies. The Goths have rent the veil, and rush with ruthless step into the presence of the cherubim, the ark, and the mercy-seat, while before their stolid gaze the Shekinah itself is scared, and withdraws. They must be negligent observers and superficial thinkers who fail to perceive the influence of this confusion of tongues, this ungodly contention, this desecration of Divine mysteries within the avowed temple of Conformity, upon the national mind—this rude violation of those susceptibilities which constitute the most precious inheritance of our nature. "Take the shoes from off thy feet, the place whereon thou standest is holy ground." The times which pass over us, either for evil or for good, do not spend their influence on themselves; they survive their date; they send their undulations on to succeeding years. They determine the characteristic features of unborn ages. Who can calculate the effect of the occurrences we are deploring, on the youth who throng our Universities and who are destined to be the statesmen, the judges, and the preachers of the next generation? Who can gauge their influence on the literature of our age, and on the modes of thought which may prevail in our families and our homes—among those, that is to say, who are to determine the complexion of coming times?

It is obvious, then, that on the one hand there is a subtle agency at work, which seeks to plant among us empty and fruitless speculations to the utter subversion of all dogmatic instruction, and that there is another which aims to merge personal responsibility in priestly interposition, and to lull us to sleep beneath the shade of a blighting superstition. These are the two extremes to which the unwary and the thoughtless have from time immemorial been at once attracted and impelled, and which have assumed a somewhat portentous notoriety in our day. It would be bootless to attempt to measure their respective declivities, or to indicate the depths of disappointment and dishonour to which they separately conduct, but it is enough for us to know that these are the two gaunt presences which confront us, which we have to meet with a steady eye and a determined will, with which we are to hold no dalliance, and to admit no compromise, but to resist each with an unflinching voice, in the language of the Great Master:—"Get thee behind me, Satan, thou savourest not of the things that be of God, but those that be of men."

Aestheticism.

And should we not, my brethren, guard against a too indiscriminating sympathy with the æsthetic spirit of the times? Society, like individuals, has its impulses, its moods, and its antipathies. These are so silently occasioned and formed, that we are unable to detect the process; they slide into and supersede each other so subtly, and are so gradually taken in through the interstices and pores of social life, that almost all we know of them is that they exist; and so Protean are they, so transient comparatively is their stay, that we can trace them only in their relics. Whether from the restless activity of great animated masses, from a freer intercourse with foreign nations, from the spirit of an ingenious enterprise, or from these and other causes combined, it is not requisite to decide, but it is clear that the present age offers no exception to the rule—that it differs, that is to say, in its superficial features, from these which have preceded it. But change does not necessarily intend improvement, nor a love of ornament indicate refinement. Æsthetic tendencies do not always bring with them corresponding conceptions, any more than intellectual proclivities necessarily involve mental power. It would be difficult, I think, with all our progress, to detect any very marked advancement in true taste, either in the architecture, the fashions, or the manners of the day. The tone which prevails in general society has shown itself in religious communities—and among others, in our own—in the altered style of our chapels, the modes of our worship, and the tendencies towards the imposing and ornate. If we admit that in these respects we have taken a step in the right direction, is there no danger, my brethren, of our going too far—of the spirit of competition and the passion for display impelling us too fast? May we not bound forward in this direction with a force which will entail and demand a corresponding recoil? Are we in no danger of falling into the gross notion, of drinking in the far too common, but very subtle feeling, that human artifice commends itself to the Divine complacency?—that material grandeur comports with the spiritual essence?—that garnished temples are pleasing to God?—an error which we must admit, pervades all superstitions. "But where is the house that you will build unto me," said the Lord, "and where is the place of my rest?" May we not go on till the forms of our worship endanger and overlay its spirit, till screens and vestments, and intonations and chants, become substitutes, instead of auxiliaries, to the intelligent devotion of the sanctuary, and so call down the rebuke, "Bring no more vain oblation"? Is it altogether certain that we may not adapt our religious houses and services to the cravings of novelty until we appeal through them to the imagination rather than to the

understanding, and render them channels of agreeable excitement, rather than sanctifying means of grace? Is there no danger of the sword of the Spirit itself losing its edge while brandished amidst so much that is incidental and artistic? While giving all proper attention to the tastefulness and commodiousness of our places of worship, and to the order, impressiveness, and decorum of their sacred engagements, we will not forget, brethren, that we have nothing to do with an age when all was typical, whether buildings or ceremonies or sacrifices, from the golden bell and the pomegranate that adorned the robe of the priest to the Urim and Thummim which glistened on his breast—from the altar before which Solomon stood spreading forth his hands towards heaven, to the gorgeous temple itself, beneath whose vaulted roof he poured forth his sublime prayer;—but the rather we will bear in mind that whether we convene in the lowly cottage or in the well-appointed sanctuary, we "come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to the innumerable company of angels, to God the judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, to Jesus, the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling which speaketh better things than the blood of Abel."

Reverence for the Bible.

It is incumbent on us to nourish as wisely as we can in the youth of our congregations a profound reverence for the Word of God.

The most artful, and certainly the most successful way of getting rid of evangelical truth, is to weaken the influence of the book which contains it; this, therefore, has always been the policy of the free-thinking school. If, say these men, you wish to dispose of the anction about which the saints talk, break the vase which holds it, for whatever impairs the power of the Bible strengthens the cause of rationalism. They attempt their work of demolition by setting the Scripture at variance with nature and with science, by calling in question its historic records, by magnifying the few blemishes which time and transmission may have occasioned in its renderings, by denying its inspiration, by arraigning its mysteries at the bar of reason, and by covering it with human glossaries. It might be allowed, I think, even by such persons, that we are not so much overdone with information respecting subjects of the highest interest to rational and accountable creatures, touching things which lie beyond the range of sense, or the scope of trained and cultivated intelligence, or with regard to the secrets of an unexplored future, as to wantonly dispense with any helps which have come down to us from the past, or as to lightly set aside a volume which brings to us great thoughts adapted to awaken solemn musings, and to inspire animated hopes! Instead of trying to supersede it, good taste, true self-interest, and enlightened benevolence, would conspire to lead us solicitously to retain it, and so far from rejoicing in extinguishing it, to mourn at the thought of being deprived of its light. It is a bad sign when men can deface or pull down a venerable, stately, and chaste fabric without a sigh! But we venture to defy their assaults. Their predecessors have tried it before them—coarse hands have attacked it, polished weapons have been hurled at it—the common herd have insulted it—the schools have risen up against it. "Essays and Reviews" may be multiplied, and may carry, if they dare, their teachings to their legitimate issues; but there stands the Bible still, and there it will abide, unscathed, unshaken, unsullied! Though a scratch or a flyspeck here or there may slightly deface the productions of a Raphael or a Titian, the genius of the great masters will gleam through notwithstanding, and, after all its avowed enemies or false friends may do, the inspiration of the sacred Scriptures will shine through all, with matchless and unabated splendour; the faithful guide from heaven will still remain with us, "fair as the moon, clear as the sun, majestic as an army with banners." Let us, brethren, as aforetime, give its leaves broadcast to the winds; let us tell its simple story to the child, and propound its deep philosophy to the sage; let its beams penetrate the hovel, and give an unwonted radiance to the palace; let us commission it to every clime, and render it into every tongue; let us fearlessly invite towards it scrutiny and research, and confidently laugh at the pestilential breath of malignity and hate, for "not one jot or tittle of my word shall fail." If it would not savour of arrogance or presumption, I would appeal to the denomination to which I belong to rise as one man, and, amidst the times which are passing around us, swear renewed allegiance at the shrine of inspired truth!

There is reason to fear that the opinions we deprecate have found acceptance in Nonconforming circles; that they have in some instances tainted the teacher and captivated the hearer; but it is difficult to imagine a greater calamity overtaking us than their unimpeded diffusion. The professed Christian Church has always had those about it who have advocated an historic rather than a confiding faith—such a faith as that we have in Alexander, in Julius Cæsar, or in Attila—while those have not been wanting who have magnified a theoretic beyond a living experimental belief,—a belief akin to that we may have in Faber's "Theory of Prophecy," in Harvey's "Theory of the Blood," or in Newton's "Theory of the Heavens"—while a third class have vaunted an assumptive instead of a practical belief, choosing to forget that "faith without works is dead." But now we are threatened with the destruction of theories themselves—with the overthrow of the very structure of our religion, and are invited, by professed Christian instructors too, to adopt premises, which if conducted to their legitimate consequences, will land us in the infidelity of a Bolingbroke and a Hume. Happily, however, the dispensation under which we live, while it provides for a stated ministry, recognises no priesthood, so that the influence of the pastor is rather moral than official, and is made to depend more on his fidelity than on his position. The Christian fellowship, not the officers whom it may elect, is the guardian of the truth. To the church, not to its instructors, the keys of the kingdom are entrusted—nor can they, permit me to say, be in safer hands. Men who have received evangelical truth, who appreciate its sacredness, and know its incomparable worth, are its best protectors; others may run about the walls of Zion, but it is theirs to guard its citadel. It is, therefore, for the churches of Christ to fulfil their mission, and not to betray their trust by tolerating equivocal and unscriptural teachings in their midst. "The prophet that hath a dream, let him tell a dream; and he that hath my word, let him speak my word faithfully."

Theological State of Dissent.

There is no feature more remarkable or more honourable among Dissenters, as a rule, than the respect and esteem in which they hold the ministry, and those who suitably represent it; but this is no reason why they should be expected to render a blind and indiscriminating obedience; it is rather the legitimate spring of that jealousy with which they regard the vast interests involved. But the insidious leaven is as yet only very partially diffused, and as its pernicious results become patent to intelligent and thoughtful men, who may have regarded it with a too lenient eye, its influence will be more restricted still, since its tendency is to substitute for earnest godliness a kind of gaseous inflation, and to distend with unhealthy humours rather than to give muscle and sinew to the frame. As a denomination, our wisdom and strength lie in resisting it, in encountering it by the faithful, plain, persevering, affectionate preaching of the great doctrines of the Cross. We might, without impropriety, call to encourage and to cheer us, the shades of our fathers, the character and deeds of our predecessors, in the faith and patience of Christ; men of ripe faculties, of manly mould, and of apostolic zeal, "of whom the world was not worthy." But we the rather repair to the fount of evangelical law, and to the example of inspiration itself—to one who writing to early believers says, "And I, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God. For I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ and Him crucified. And I was with you in weakness and in fear, and in much trembling. And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the spirit, and of power: that your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God."

We, my brethren, as a section of the visible Church, are but slightly—if at all—affected by this malady; but if our pulpits are to occupy the place which belongs to them in this great conflict, and effectually to resist the insidious and cankerous encroachments of error, it is obvious that weighty obligations rest on those on whom has devolved the training of the rising ministry of the body; and it is inevitable that we should turn towards our collegiate institutions with mingled pride and solicitude. They have won the confidence, and secured the prayerful interest, of the majority of our people, and they will, by their unabated consecration to the interests of evangelical truth, continue, we are sure, to command them. "Doth a fountain send forth, at the same place, sweet waters and bitter?"

Duty of Dissenters with respect to the Church.

Let me add that it is our sacred obligation to maintain, in the spirit of the Gospel, an increasingly conscientious separation from the Endowed Church of the realm. Could we be persuaded to look upon the important ecclesiastical movement around us exclusively through the medium of Dissent, we might be tempted rather to rejoice than to repine; but there are interests, whatever our accusers may pretend, far dearer to us than those which such a relative position to surrounding parties implies—interests which lived long before the English Church was framed, and which will survive when that Church has passed away. It may not be a matter of indifference to us whether the Episcopal, the Synodical, or the Independent form of church-government prevails; but this is, after all, but a trifling consideration when compared with the honour of our Great Redeemer, and the progress of His cause in the land. When, therefore, we find men of high celebrity circulating doctrines not according to godliness, and observe them encouraged in their course by the highest sanction of law, and witness their conduct receive the imprimatur of the most august authorities of the realm, we hold it to be an occasion, not for triumph, but for lamentation and woe—we mourn as civilians, as Christians, and as patriots. But surely this spectacle is adapted to nourish our principles, and nerve our purposes as seceders from the Church of England. If the representatives of that community be sincere in their expressed desire to recall us to her fellowship, they adopt strange measures to secure it. What possible inducement is there to seek the shelter of a body which has pomp without power, canons without unity, and ambition without freedom?—a body which, however regally attired, grows pale and motionless under the patronage of senators and princes, and which, had it not called to its aid the principle on which free churches repose, would by this time have been a stately corpse? What temptation could be adequate to attract us from our chosen seclusion, into the midst of a theatre, the stage of which is crowded by a motley group of clergymen of every grade, accompanied by councillors from every court, contending about the first principles of revealed religion, with a polished acrimony which inspires thoughtful spectators with shame and disgust? We, as a body, in conjunction with other sections of the Dissenting community, yield to none in loyalty to the Queen, and in attachment to her dynasty, and shall not cease to offer our prayers at the throne of the heavenly grace for her prolonged happiness and for the continuance of her line—we honour and obey her as the head of the civil authority of the empire. But we repudiate with renewed determination the connection which subsists between the Church and the State, and conscientiously believe it to be dishonouring to God and to be fraught with manifold and grievous mischiefs to men; so that its dissolution would conduce to the promotion of pure religion and to the honour and progress of the Commonwealth. The connection which subsists between cause and effect must be strangely disturbed, and the laws which imperceptibly determine the processes of decay must have been mysteriously suspended, if recent events do not hasten this issue. It is contrary to the reports of all history and utterly discordant with the experience of ages, that prolonged internal contentions should not unsettle and weaken the communities or institutions they disturb,—that contending policies and conflicting interests should not engender incongruities and consuming animosities, which are the forerunners of decay. Beside the fatal disease they feed and influence within, they inspire by degrees, distaste and aversion from without, so that spectators stand prepared for their overthrow. The hour may be delayed and the process be apparently slow, but the catastrophe is inevitable and such as no human strategy can avert. In the meantime, it is for us to hold fast the liberties we have won, to use all peaceful means to sweep away the petty tyrannies that

remain, to substitute equality for toleration in all that relates to conscience and to right; and while labouring in the vineyard of the Great Master with increasing solicitude and care, and wishing "grace, mercy, and peace, to all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours," serenely to await the day, when, emancipated from all worldly policies, an unfettered Christianity shall summon the nations to liberty and life.

Conclusion.

I have, then, my brethren, ventured to point to some of the features of the times, and to their attendant obligations. In observing the one, and in fulfilling the other, we shall, I venture to submit, be acting worthily of our ancestry, have the approbation of conscience, and the smile of our common Lord; shall conduce to the prosperity of our beloved country at home, and to its augmented moral influence abroad, while each in his turn descends to the grave, enrolled among those who, through evil report and good report, have sought the establishment among us of that spiritual kingdom which can never be moved.

On the motion of the Rev. J. H. HINTON, seconded by the Rev. J. J. BROWN, of Northampton, a cordial vote of thanks was given to the chairman for his valuable address, which was ordered to be printed.

The Hon. and Rev. B. W. NOEL said that the members of the Committee of Privy Council did not pronounce upon the truth of the doctrines that were brought before them, but only on their legality. They meant it to be understood that they could not say that the clergymen who wrote the extracts which were judicially before them were legally incapacitated from holding benefices in the Establishment. He thought that as long as there was an Established Church there must be a Court to try such questions.

THE REPORT.

The Rev. J. H. MILLARD read the annual report, which stated that some pleasing and encouraging progress had been made during the past year in the enlargement and consolidation of the Baptist Union. Seven associations, comprising 160 churches, had joined the Union, besides twenty-eight churches which had come forward independently. The total number of churches constituting the Union was now 1,279, little more than half the denomination. Returns had been obtained from 1,701 churches, reporting a membership of 176,232. Of the 1,270 associated churches, 1,119 reported their clear increase during one year to be 1,326, or an average of 1½ per church. This was the lowest average increase that has been reported for eight years previously. The financial statement showed a balance of about 231. due to the treasurer.

This report, with the statement of account, was unanimously adopted.

STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

The Hon. and Rev. B. W. NOEL gave an address on the above subject. He said that he had not expected to meet so large a number of brethren, or he should have hesitated to speak to them on such a subject, especially as he had not had time to put down his thoughts in writing. They could not have listened to the statement in the report as to the progress of the churches without the deepest grief and some shame. It was a secondary good to get good chapels and large congregations if souls were not saved. God was not reluctant to save. He worked by human instrumentality, but were they to suppose that it was His plan that only one person should be added to each church every year? Was that living in a dispensation which had begun with the Pentecost, and was to close with the second advent? What they should bear in mind as ministers was that they should preach the Gospel—not controversy, but free and full salvation through Christ. Much as he admired the exceedingly appropriate paper of the chairman, it was not by such papers that souls were to be saved. They must preach Christ crucified, and that with great directness. They must remember what Baxter said:—"When I preach to a multitude, it is like pouring a bucket of water in a large stream on a number of empty bottles packed together; more than half the water falls between the bottles. But when I talk to a man individually, I take a bottle by itself and pour the water into it from my pitcher till it is full." Besides preaching earnestly, they must go to their hearers individually and say, "Are you saved?" If they did not, that would account in some measure for so few conversions. Ministers must feel that their whole life was given up to this spiritual work. They should leave the secular affairs of the churches to other men chosen because they were full of wisdom and of the Holy Ghost. He was personally conscious of much shortcoming, not only in working but in hoping and believing; but by God's grace he would exercise more faith and expect larger results. The churches were responsible as well as the ministers. If a pastor were faithful and the church were not, the one would neutralise the other. One work of pastors was the perfecting of the saints. Had they as ministers been endeavouring to train their churches up to their responsibilities? Were the members of those churches that reported a small increase fulfilling their glory? Where were the children of godly parents? If parents were not bringing their children to Christ and agonising for them, that would partly explain why there was only an average of one member added to each church during the year. Let the ministers go home to their churches and tell each member to try and bring another into fellowship during the ensuing year, and thus, by the grace of God, they would see better results next year. Let them walk with God. That was a blessed life and death of an aged man, who every day took what he called a walk with God—a solitary walk in the middle of each day to commune with

his Heavenly Father. One day he was found dead beneath a tree where he had sat down during his walk. The best way of wrestling with the Essayists and Latitudinarians was to be often in the mount communing with God—coming thence into the pulpit. Some people said that that preaching was only fit for poor people. Well, with whom did Christ work, but with the poor? There was a great deal that was hopeful in labouring among the poor; besides, the poor were becoming better and better educated every year, and were exercising more and more influence upon society. There were two instances which had recently come to his knowledge where God had greatly blessed a comparatively feeble instrumentality. One was the case of Mr. Carter, who had been instrumental in gathering together a congregation of two or three hundred working men, fifty of whom had formed themselves into a church-fellowship. Another was the case of an old Sunday-schooler of his, a butcher, who in addition to carrying on his business at Notting-hill, had also gathered a congregation together and had been chosen their pastor. In these cases the men made no pretensions to learning. They expected God to work with them, and God did so. Let them have the same sort of faith, hope, and love, and by God's grace they should be able to give a better account of themselves next year. If God worked with them, that would be a sufficient answer to all worldly cavillers and objectors.

The above address was followed by the usual vote of thanks.

THE ASSOCIATIONS.

The Rev. C. WILLIAMS read an interesting paper on "Our Associations," setting forth the leading arguments in favour of associated action amongst Baptists. He said that in all England there were seventy towns with populations exceeding 5,000 each, and an aggregate population of 754,000, with no Baptist church; and there were many large towns and parishes besides where the denomination was very ill represented. Wales and Monmouthshire presented much better results. Lancashire, with a population eight times as great as that of four Welsh counties, had 6,000 fewer Baptist members. He considered that associated action would do a great deal towards improving their denominational prospects, always keeping that means subservient to the great end of winning souls to the Redeemer's kingdom.

The Rev. Dr. EVANS, in moving that this paper be printed, drew attention to the fact that there was no Baptist association for London.

The Rev. Mr. STENT seconded the resolution. It was a reproach on the Baptists of London very difficult to wipe away, that having once had an association they had allowed it to fall to pieces. He was sorry not to see present some of the foremost ministers of the denomination resident in London, some of whom were very prone to discourage any attempt to form a London association, and yet they were the men who, if they took the matter up, would soon get others to follow their example, and the thing would be done. There was power in London to accomplish more than had yet been thought of, owing to the absence of association. Only lately in one of the suburbs the Congregationalists had taken possession of an interesting field of labour where there would have been an excellent opening for a Baptist cause, as half-a-dozen Baptist families lived quite contiguous to the spot. He wished there were more leading laymen at that meeting, that they might see the importance of co-operating in this work.

The Rev. C. STOVEL said he should indeed be glad if the discussion led to a movement for the restoration of the London Baptist Association, which ought never to have been dissolved. His recollection of some of the meetings of that body were of the most gratifying kind.

The Rev. W. ROBINSON, of Cambridge, scarcely concurred in the propriety of forming merely denominational unions. It was his deepening conviction that all denominationalism was sin. When one said, "I am of Paul," and another, "I am of Apollos," the Apostle said, "Are ye not carnal, and walk as men?" There was no association in the neighbourhood in which he lived; but it was proposed to form one, and the question was, Shall it be a Baptist or a Christian association? Should they extend the limits so widely as to admit all who believed in and served the Lord Jesus Christ? What the result might be he did not know. He hoped, however, that his Christian brethren would keep their eyes fixed in the direction of Christian union as distinguished from sectional union.

A vote of thanks was then cordially passed to the author of the paper.

CHAPEL-BUILDING FINANCE.

Mr. A. T. BOWSER read a paper on the above subject. This document entered into very considerable statistics as to the progress of chapel-building and the extinction of chapel debts in England. Twenty-four new chapels had been built, and fourteen enlarged or improved during the year. Nineteen others were in progress, making a total of 58, accommodating 12,705 persons, at a cost of £55,000, or an average of 47. 8s. 6d. per sitting, including the cost of the land. The debts on 12 chapels had been entirely extinguished during the year, but as some new debts had been incurred, the gross reduction in the aggregate of debt was only 7,000l. He was sorry to say that the interest of the debt chiefly rested as a burden on the minister, preventing the people from raising his salary. This interest was a very heavy item; in some instances a church paying thrice the amount of debt in that form, without being able to get rid of the principal. The Chapel Loan Fund had been esta-

lished in 1846, and had proved a most useful institution, besides being a pioneer to the establishment of similar funds having a local application. The repayment of loans from this fund were made entirely free from interest, and as the instalments were 50*l.* half-yearly, an earnest church could without difficulty raise the money by special weekly contributions of small amounts each, without trenching on the minister's income. If the fund were large enough to enable the committee to lend half, or even one-third, of the amount required to build new chapels in suitable districts, it would prove of inestimable service in extending the principles of the denomination and advancing the interests of the Messiah's kingdom.

[We are requested to state that, but for the deeply-regretted illness of Sir M. Peto, Bart., M.P., this subject would have enjoyed the benefit of his able and thoroughly sympathetic support.]

Dr. UNDERHILL moved, and the Rev. W. BURCHELL seconded, a vote of thanks to the author of this valuable paper.

The Rev. C. VINCE asked whether the Building Fund were established on as broad a basis as the Baptist Union.

Mr. BOWSER said that the Building Fund was limited to the Calvinistic Baptists.

Mr. VINCE regretted that such was the case, and doubted whether it were in the province of the Union to recommend a society for general adoption, the principles of which were less comprehensive than its own.

Dr. UNDERHILL said that his resolution did not do any such thing. It simply affirmed the importance of the subject, and recommended the committee to print Mr. Bowser's paper.

Mr. BOWSER said he had carefully guarded himself against pledging the Union to a support of any particular society.

Mr. VINCE said he wished to raise the question whether it were not possible to have a fund on a broader basis—comprehending all Evangelical Baptist churches.

The Rev. F. TRESTRAIL said that a property question was involved in the discussion. Nothing could prevent people giving their money with certain restrictions.

The Rev. Mr. HENDERSON, of Devonshire Chapel, thought that the object of the paper was to benefit the Baptist Building Fund, which was a Calvinistic society.

The Rev. H. TODD, of Sydenham, said he had known churches apply to the Building Fund, and refused because they were not Particular and Calvinistic, and he believed that some persons had subscribed their money to it in ignorance of the limitations in its constitution.

The Rev. J. H. MILLARD hoped that the discussion would lead the managers of the Building Fund to remodel its constitution. The resolution, however, did not commit the Union to any expression of opinion on that subject.

The resolution was then carried by a majority.

MINISTERIAL PROVIDENT SOCIETIES.

The Rev. S. GREEN read a report from the committee appointed to consider the subject of ministerial provident societies in connection with the National Provident Institution.

The report, after some discussion, was adopted.

REPLY TO AMERICAN BAPTISTS.

A letter was read from the Baptist ministers in the city of Philadelphia, in the United States, on the subject of their missionary jubilee, and a reply drawn up by the committee was submitted to the session for its approval. Some discussion took place as to the most suitable wording of the reply in reference to the slavery question, and eventually the matter was referred to the incoming committee to draw up and forward a fraternal letter on the subject.

CONCLUDING BUSINESS.

A resolution in favour of holding autumnal meetings of the Union in the chief provincial towns was carried.

A petition was adopted to the Lords and Commons in favour of abolishing the ecclesiastical tests for degrees and fellowships now in vogue at Oxford.

A congratulatory resolution on the increased strength of the Union by the accession of seven country associations was passed.

A short paper by the Rev. C. STOVEL, on the subject of ecclesiastical relations to the civil government, was also adopted, and entered on the minutes of the proceedings.

A vote of thanks to the chairman was then unanimously passed, and the proceedings terminated with the doxology and benediction.

BAPTIST HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of this society was held on Monday evening, in the Poultry Chapel, Henry Wright, Esq., of Hammersmith, in the chair.

The Rev. J. HOWARD HINTON having offered prayer,

The Rev. S. GREEN, who has been appointed secretary in the room of the Rev. S. J. Davies, now the pastor of the English Baptist church at Aberdeen, read the report of the committee. It began with the statement that four of the mission churches have become self-supporting during the past year—Tredegarville, a suburb of Cardiff; Wells, Somersetshire; Shotley Bridge, Durham; and Neath, Glamorganshire. The church at York, it is believed, will continue to be in a dependent condition until a good place of worship with a competent minister shall have been secured. A successful effort had been made to assist the Rev. H. Kitching to raise a new church at

Mile-end, a thickly populated and destitute part of Portsmouth. The total cost of the new chapel was about 2,100*l.* The committee have given temporary assistance to the Rev. W. H. Bonner, who is engaged in a praiseworthy attempt to raise a church in Canningtown, an eastern suburb of London; and to the Rev. H. Thomas, who is engaged in similar work at Britonferry, near Swansea. Grants have been made to Pembroke, and North Devon. The iron chapel has been removed from Highbury-hill to Hammersmith-vale, where it was hoped a Christian church would be gathered into it from a neighbourhood of working men. The number of central stations in connection with the society is sixty-eight, and of sub-stations eighty-six. The number of members added to the mission churches during the year is 405. There are fifty-five Sunday-schools, 496 teachers, and 3,468 scholars. The committee have resolved to extend the proceedings of the society by augmenting the number of useful, strong, and self-supporting churches, the design being to raise one church yearly. For this purpose, the constituency is asked to augment the funds by 300*l.* a-year. The cash statement showed that the total income of the society during the year had been 1,375*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.*, and that, after balancing the accounts, the society was 195*l.* 0*s.* 5*d.* in debt.

The CHAIRMAN said he hoped that in entering upon the business of the meeting they would all make the most of all the favourable circumstances by which they were surrounded, and the first thing that struck him was the fact of the place where they were assembled. He did not believe in the consecration of places of worship in the sense in which some people did, but he supposed there were but few of those present who were not sensible of the hallowing influence of some places which had been marked in an especial manner by the presence and favour and blessing of God. Such was the case with that chapel, where for a long series of years the Gospel had been preached with great fidelity, power, and success, and where many souls had been converted, and where many who were among the strongest pillars of the church had had their piety nurtured and fed. They might also gather some advantage from the early stage at which the meeting was held. Sometimes, though not weary of God's work they were weary in it, but that time had not yet come, and he hoped that those who were to address the meeting had come to it with a freshness and fullness of power, and prepared to advocate in a most forcible manner the claims of this most excellent society. (Cheers.) The name adopted by the society was a very happy one, but he thought that there would be more solemnity about their meeting if they would sink all names, and only think of their gracious Master, and what He required at their hands. (Hear, hear.) It was impossible for them to get a true idea of God's character, but perhaps the best way in which they could do it was by thinking of what God was and of what He was not. They were also called upon to contemplate the sad condition of a large portion of their fellow-countrymen, and they ought to enter upon this duty with all Christian earnestness. The society had laboured diligently and very successfully, and one noticeable feature in the report was the very wide scope which the society took in its operations. In its catholicity and its zeal it seemed to have embraced almost every class of people. First of all it had gone down to South Wales, and had done a great work in Tredegar, a place which was comparatively unknown till very recently. Then it had gone to Portsmouth, and to Middlesbrough, and then among the farming population of Dorsetshire; and in all these places it had been the means of doing much good. It must not be thought that the society had no difficulties in its way, but it should be remembered that even in this country there was much to be contended with in spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and that it needed several years before they could work with any great success. He most heartily approved of the statement in the report, of the determination to establish one new church every year, and he felt that in carrying out that determination they would be conferring upon their denomination and upon their country the greatest possible blessing. Many people living in London had come to the conclusion that the establishing of a new cause was the best way in this day of promoting God's cause, and he hoped that those who were connected with this society would look this matter full in the face. It would require a little stretch of their liberality, and a deep interest in their prayers; but if they carried it out they might depend on it that God would prosper them, and that in the course of a few years they would have several good organisations as the result of the society's work.

The Rev. WILLIAM WALTERS, of Newcastle, moved the following resolution:—

That this meeting would express gratitude to Almighty God for the success which has attended the labours of the society's agents during the past year, especially that so many of the churches, formerly aided from the society's funds, have become self-supporting; the meeting would also most cordially sympathise with the honoured brethren who are labouring, some of them amidst great difficulties, to carry out the benevolent intentions and objects of the society.

This society (said Mr. Walters) was very much in the position of a father, who, while his children were under the parental roof, made it his business, as it was his delight, to attend to their wants, and to exercise over them parental supervision and care, but who was, nevertheless, much pleased to see them, as they grew to years of maturity, comfortably settled, well married, and surrounded by happy offspring, who, in their turn, would also become heads of families, and be surrounded by their children. So this society exercised a loving care over those churches which were its own offspring, or which it had taken up when in a feeble state, but, at the same time, it rejoiced to

see those churches become self-supporting themselves, and able to help to support others. He would not withdraw help from any of these small churches too soon, as to do so would in many cases be cruel and unjust, but, on the other hand, he thought that in future the business of the society was to endeavour to plant new churches, which in their turn would probably become auxiliaries of the society, instead of being dependent on it. But before this could be done they must have in the various large towns suitable chapels and ministers adapted to the people, amongst whom they were called to labour. He felt interested in this matter, because they were endeavouring to do something of the same sort in with the auxiliary branch of the society, of which he was the secretary, and he might mention specially the large towns of West Hartlepool and Middlesbrough, where they were endeavouring to carry this policy out. He fully approved of expressing sympathy with the agents of the society. He knew something of the difficulties under which many of them had to labour. Pastors of large and wealthy and prosperous churches knew nothing of the hardships which many of these men had to endure, nor of the obstacles which impeded their progress. They deserved sympathy, and sympathy with them ought to be expressed, not only at the present meeting, but on all possible occasions. They accorded their sympathy to the poor; they admired their own statesmen; they gazed with reverent admiration on pure patriotism, such as that which had been exhibited in the life and career of the noble man who had lately been dwelling in their midst, and who was about to leave this country for his island home; they revered genius, as all the country was at present acknowledging the genius of its own Shakespeare; they enwreathed the laurel about the warrior's brow, when he returned home victorious from the battle-field. They sympathised with the martyrs and pioneers of great social reforms. They did not do wrong in all this, but he did say that as Christian men—as men who believed in Christ, and who loved the Redeemer who died for them; they should reserve the largest share of their sympathy for those who were co-operating with Christ in His great and precious purposes towards our race, men whom He would honour one day, and to whom He would say, passing by statesmen, and warriors, and patriots, and philosophers, and poets—"Well done, good and faithful servants, enter ye into the joy of your Lord." They might depend upon it that the age of the societies was not yet over, as some would have us believe, but at the same time the age of societies had its danger, and they were too often in the habit of losing their individuality. Let each one, however, do his own work, knowing that no society could do it for him, and remembering that there would one day be a rich reward. (Cheers.)

The Rev. J. P. BARNETT, of Birmingham, in seconding the resolution, said there was one view which he always took of the operations of such a society as this, which was very commonplace, but which should not, therefore, be looked upon as worthless, and it was that every honest, intelligent, and right-hearted effort which was put forth to bring the children of men under the influence of the Gospel of Christ, deserved on that simple ground alone the warmest and heartiest approval of every Christian man—(Hear, hear)—and therefore there was no necessity for them to wait until efforts of this sort were perfectly faultless and unexceptionable in every respect before their warm and hearty approval was rendered to them. He could easily imagine that a hundred questions might be asked about the society, some of which might be of very grave importance; and if that were so, let such questions be asked, and the best possible answers be given to them by all manner of means; but still every one of such questions seemed to sink into insignificance by the side of the one great and all important question of what the society was mainly striving to do. When they recollected what the society was really doing, they would surely feel that it was entitled to their very warmest and heartiest support. How many of the churches which had been helped by the society might, but for the assistance which they had received, have now been either altogether extinct or else entirely dead and lifeless; and how many churches now existed, and were in a flourishing state, in various parts of the country, which had been thus aided since the commencement of the society. The history of such churches might not be very romantic, but it could not be read without great thankfulness and joy, for it would tell of souls redeemed, and of the happy fulfilment of words spoken twenty-five centuries ago, that Jesus should see of the travail of His soul, and be satisfied. They could not look upon the feebleness which characterised many of the preaching stations in the country from want of assistance without feeling that it was their duty to help a society such as this in every possible way. (Applause.) He was quite sure that none of the societies now holding their meetings need be jealous of each other, for they all had the same end in view, and in fact by supporting themselves, they were really supporting each other. The patriotism of the society was one of its most beautiful characteristics, its object being to spread throughout the land the righteousness which exalted a nation, and without which it was not possible for any nation in the world to be really and truly exalted. There was a great deal of moral grandeur about the unselfishness and patriotism which had been exhibited in the life of him whom he might call Garibaldi the Great—and he did not allude to this by way of clap-trap—but they should all resolve to rise into that spirit of true Christian patriotism which the Apostle Paul exhibited, and then they would feel no hardship

too heavy, and no sacrifice too great, in the endeavour to spread the Gospel of Christ throughout the land.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The Rev. EDWARD DENNETT, of Blackheath moved:—

That this meeting learns, with great satisfaction, that the committee, while not unmindful of the claims of rural districts on the labours and zeal of this society, are preparing largely to augment their efforts towards establishing Christian churches in the suburbs of the metropolis, and in large cities and towns in the country, and hopes that these enlarged efforts will receive from all friends of the society, as they deserve, the most generous and liberal sympathy and aid.

He said he thought one reason why more interest was not taken in the operations of the society was, that in the case of foreign missions, the whole circumstances connected with them were rather exciting to the mind; the details of the wretchedness among many of those at home were so terrible, that people shrank from looking into them from their coarseness. Perhaps, too, modern missions did not contain in them, as they should, the essential elements of the early Christian missions, namely, evangelism and unsectarianism. They should never be sectarian; they should never put their own distinctive principles in the van of their mission: but all that they had to do was simply to advance Christianity; and the motto of all their missionaries should be—"I am sent, not to baptize, but to preach the Gospel." He was sorry that the resolution did not speak of the silver and the gold as belonging to God. He wished to impress upon all Christian people that it was their duty to give to the cause of Christ not from impulse, but from principle, and he thought that if this fact were more distinctly recognised amongst Christians, the various societies would not be so much in want of money as they generally were. If they were only more faithful, and exalted Christ more, they would soon have abundant signs of God's blessing in a greater measure of success.

The Rev. J. W. LANE, of Newport, seconded the resolution, which was unanimously adopted, after which, on the motion of the Rev. S. G. GREEN, a vote of thanks was passed to the pastor and deacons for the use of the chapel, and to the chairman for presiding, and the meeting broke up.

A collection was made during the evening in aid of the funds of the society.

BIBLE TRANSLATION SOCIETY.

The twenty-fourth annual meeting of the Baptist Bible Translation Society was held at Kingsgate-street Chapel on Thursday evening. J. C. Marshman, Esq., presided, and called to mind the origin and progress of the society, lamenting that the British and Foreign Bible Society should have resolved to cease to give any aid towards the printing and circulation of the Baptist versions, for the altogether insufficient reason that the word "baptize" was therein translated instead of being transferred, and utterly denying the truth of the allegation sometimes made that the Baptist body was itself chargeable with bringing about the present sectarian action. They deeply regretted it, and wished that a spirit of Christian liberality in the matter might again prevail. If this society had not been set on foot, many millions of the people of India now in possession of the Scriptures would have remained utterly ignorant of them to this day. He appealed for more ample funds that the great work still to do might be prosecuted with increased efficiency.

The Rev. W. W. EVANS, the secretary, read an encouraging report, telling of the progress of the various new and revised versions being made by Mr. Wenger, Mr. Parsons, Mr. Carter, and other missionaries.

The Rev. CHARLES CARTER, of Ceylon, dwelt upon the vast importance to the heathen world of the work of this and similar societies, and testified to the willingness of the people of Ceylon to purchase and read the Bible.

The Rev. JOSEPH PARSONS, of Meerut, related a number of facts and incidents illustrative of the good effects resulting from the translation and circulation of the Bible.

I have observed (he said) that in every instance where I have distributed the Bible, or portions of it, amongst Hindoos or Mohammedans, and have asked their opinion of it afterwards, the impression has been produced that it contains the highest code of ethics, and the purest system of morality, of any book on earth. The people have sometimes said that they considered it too pure for any one to attempt to live up to. Others said they should not like to be judged by this book, for they thought it a little too harsh. I have sometimes heard them say, in plain terms, that they hated the book, because it was so strict. Then, again, the fact that they may be found frequently appealing to the Bible against the injustice practised by Europeans, indicates their thoughts respecting its high moral character. In these appeals they often show themselves to be thoroughly conversant with the Bible, which they have, somehow, come to regard as the rule of life with Europeans. Moreover, I have many times been called upon to arbitrate between natives, in cases where, because of expense, they were reluctant to take their disputes into a court of law, and I have always found, in every instance, that Bible precedents and Bible rules were perfectly satisfactory to them. The Bible, again, entering the homes of the natives, sheds its hallowing influence and light over the domestic circle; and it improves the social position of the native whenever it comes into his house. Especially does it improve the position of the women. It raises them from the state of degradation in which it finds them. In these various ways the Bible becomes the powerful pioneer of the missionary. I may mention the fact, that at the present time there are, not only vast numbers who read the Bible, but multitudes willing to buy it, willing to pay the full price for it. Then, again, the Bible, by its bright and diffusive light, has banished many dark and abominable

deeds, which were once practised in open day. It has, moreover, improved the native mind, which is of a far higher tone than it was some years ago. It is gradually, but surely, abolishing idolatry, by causing the blush of shame to come upon the cheek of its votary. Though idolatrous customs still prevail among the three-and-thirty millions of Hindoos, yet there is reason to believe that the idols are no longer enthroned in the affections of the people. It is certainly also a great blessing that we are able to supply our native converts with the Word of God. Bible translation has to a great extent in India preceded other missionary efforts, and the fact that native Christians could obtain copies of the Bible is sufficient, in my opinion, to account for the absence of heretical sects amongst them. I do not know of the existence of more than one such sect throughout the whole of India. I was much encouraged when in Delhi some time since by hearing a statement by a native teacher of one of the idolatrous systems, who came to me with an old and soiled copy of the Scriptures, wherein there was written the name of our good friend Peter Thompson, who is now in heaven. He had kept it, he told me, for eleven years, studying it, and trying to teach the people from it. The people, he said, liked his teaching, but he was fearful that they would forsake him if he confessed that he had altered his views and become a Christian. I believe that man was convinced of the truth. He spoke with much affection, and almost reverentially, of Mr. Thompson. All through the mutiny, he said, that copy of the Bible had been a great comfort to him, when he had been obliged to fly from Delhi. He had sat for many days under the trees of the jungle reading that copy of the Scriptures. Little did our brother Thompson know that this man, who had lost everything but the clothes on his back, would carefully preserve that copy of the Bible all through the mutiny. Surely such facts as these ought to encourage us to give to the people, a faithful translation of the Word of God. It is my conviction that at the present time there are not less than five thousand persons in and about Delhi who are reading the Scriptures, (cheers)—but who do not profess to be Christians—Mohammedans and Hindoos. In the Meerut district, in three or four villages and one small town, there are, to my knowledge, about twelve hundred copies of the Scriptures in whole or in part, circulating among the people; and several of the spiritual teachers have given up their own books, and have begun the best way they can to instruct their disciples from our Gospels and tracts. I have also met with several native Christians and native preachers who were brought to a knowledge of the truth by reading the Bible only, apart from all other help. Mr. Parsons then proceeded to vindicate the action of the Bible Translation Society, and to ask for it more liberal support.

Dr. UNDERHILL pointed out the inconsistency of the Bible Society in refusing to circulate Baptist versions, acknowledged to be excellent, and without error save in respect of one word, while giving its assistance for the circulation of Romish versions containing many things opposed to evangelical religion.—The Rev. G. H. ROUSE, of Calcutta, also briefly addressed the meeting, which terminated with the benediction.

Foreign and Colonial.

THE DANO-GERMAN WAR.

The Danish army continues in the Island of Alsen, and has not been seriously molested. The Prussians have been advancing into Jutland, and have captured Horsen.

In the recent assault on Dybbol, the Danes lost in killed, wounded, and prisoners, some 5,000 men; the Prussians, sixty officers and 1,000 men.

The King of Prussia has been to Flensburg, and was cordially received by the army at Dybbol. His Majesty praised and thanked several of the officers and soldiers, and the whole of the troops defiled before the King.

At Rendsburg, the King of Prussia, on his reception at the railway-station, said:—

The cause of the Duchies is sacred to me. The work which we have commenced with such earnestness shall be completed in like manner. The people may be assured that the blood of my children has not been shed in vain.

It is said that the object of the King's visit to the Duchies is to sound the population and to pave the way for a vote in conformity with the views of the Prussian Government.

The King of Denmark has issued a proclamation to the army, in which he declares that the recent losses will not prove in vain, for "they will bear fruits in this struggle against violence and injustice—a struggle whose aim is the existence and independence of our country."

FRANCE.

The *Mémorial Diplomatique* asserts that the English and French Governments are quite agreed to demand an armistice on the opening of the Conference, and even, if necessary, to enforce it. In plain words, the *Mémorial Diplomatique* declares that France and England will take up arms against any of the belligerents who refuses to accept the proposal. A very dubious report.

It now appears that neither the English nor the French banquet, announced to be held at Paris in honour of Shakespeare, has been allowed to take place. The French Government absolutely forbade the meeting of those Frenchmen who wished to pledge a toast to the memory of the great English poet who lived three hundred years ago, and attached such conditions to the meeting of the English residents in Paris who desired to take part in the tercentenary celebration as virtually amounted to a prohibition. At first the Prefect did actually interdict the English banquet, but he afterwards offered to allow it to take place provided none but Englishmen should be present.

The committee had, however, sent invitations to eminent Frenchmen, and, rather than be guilty of the churlishness of retracting those invitations, they determined to act upon the original prohibition, and give up the idea of a banquet.

AMERICA.

The latest advices from New York are to April 14. Orders had been issued on Friday last by General Grant to revoke all furloughs, to direct baggage to the rear, and sutlers to leave the army, in view of the resumption of active operations. Continuous rains prevent an immediate movement. Letters from Washington state that a threefold advance on Richmond—namely, by Grant across the Rapidan, Smith up the Peninsula, and Burnside *via* Goldsborough, North Carolina—had been determined upon.

The Confederates attacked Fort Halleck, near Columbus, Kentucky, and Fort Pillow, near Memphis, Tennessee, simultaneously, on the 12th. The surrender of both forts was demanded and refused. No further particulars are known.

An unsuccessful attempt to blow up the Federal frigate *Minnesota*, in Hampton Roads, with a torpedo, was made by the Confederates on the morning of the 9th.

The Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs, with the approval of the President and the Cabinet, had decided not to support the recent resolution of the House of Representatives relative to French operations in Mexico.

In the House of Representatives, Mr. Long, of Ohio, spoke in favour of peace, advocating the immediate recognition of the Southern Confederacy. Next day Speaker Colfax descended from the chair, and moved Mr. Long's expulsion for treason. Mr. Harris, of Maryland, defended Mr. Long, and prayed that the South might never be conquered; thereupon Mr. Washburne, of Illinois, moved the expulsion of Mr. Harris. 81 votes were in favour and 51 against, but there not being a majority of two-thirds the motion was lost. A vote of censure on Mr. Harris was immediately afterwards carried, on the motion of General Schenck. The expulsion of Mr. Long was still under discussion. Several Democratic members had declared that they endorsed Mr. Long's opinion.

There has been almost a panic in the money market. Gold rose to 189, but afterwards declined and closed 176½. Exchange nominally 195.

THE NATIONAL REFORM CONFERENCE.

The second meeting of the Reform Conference was held on Wednesday at the Assembly Rooms, Manchester; Mr. George Wilson in the chair.

A business committee, appointed at the close of Tuesday's proceedings to draw up a programme, presented the following as the result of their deliberations:—

NAME OF ASSOCIATION.

That the name of this association be "The National Reform Union."

OBJECTS.

1. To obtain an extension of the franchise not less than that which shall confer the Parliamentary suffrage in counties and boroughs on every male person, householder or lodger, rated or liable to be rated to the relief of the poor.
2. To secure a free extension of the franchise by affording to the voter the protection of the ballot.
3. To secure a more equal distribution of members of Parliament in proportion to population and property.
4. To establish more frequent opportunities for the expression of national opinion by shortening the duration of Parliaments to three years.

MANAGEMENT.

1. That the business of the National Reform Union shall be conducted by a president, vice-president, central executive committee, treasurer, auditors, and secretaries; such officers to be elected at the annual meeting of this Union.
2. That all reformers contributing not less than one shilling annually shall be members of this Union.

The report having been read, a discussion took place upon each clause separately. Mr. HENRY VINCENT, being invited to offer an opinion, said he thought the more business and the less speaking they had the better. A motion by Mr. ARMITAGE, to substitute the word "League" for "Union," was rejected. Mr. ROBERT COOPER explained, in answer to a question, that a lodger now occupying a separate part of a house to the value of 10*l.* could claim to be rated to the relief of the poor, and on being rated could claim to have a vote. What they meant by the term "lodger" was to continue the right without limitation as to amount of rate. The debate on these clauses was without much public interest, and they were all agreed to.

On the motion of Mr. COMPTON, of Barnsley, a clause was added recommending the local Reform associations throughout the country to incorporate or connect themselves with this Union with the least possible delay.

Mr. NICHOLLS moved that for a subscription of 1*l.* per annum any local association should be admitted to the Union; but after some discussion it was agreed to leave the amount of such subscription to be determined by the executive committee.

The next and most interesting question of the morning's debate was as to whether the executive should sit at Leeds or Manchester, and the CHAIRMAN suggested Leeds, because he said he thought the Yorkshiremen had shown themselves more in earnest on this question, and because the movement had been begun in Leeds. Mr. PRICE, of Manchester, objected to that city being made the headquarters of the movement, on the ground that it had once already "stoned the prophets." Nearly fifty mem-

bers of the conference spoke on this question, and the discussion lasted till nearly two o'clock. Among other gentlemen, a delegate from London said the people in the south of England would have more confidence in the movement if the executive was at Manchester, with Mr. Wilson at its head, than if it were at Leeds; and ultimately the vote for Manchester was agreed to by a large majority.

The conference then adjourned till three o'clock.

On reassembling, Mr. R. COOPER said the next business would be the election of a president for the Union, and he had great pleasure in proposing Mr. George Wilson.

Mr. WILSON said he must take a day or two to consider, and he could not accept the offer unless Mr. Ellis, of Leeds, would continue to be chairman of the executive. If he (Mr. Wilson) consented, it would be solely from a desire to see union established between Reformers throughout the country. At any rate he would be no obstacle to the election of any one else. He had gone too far in this movement to recede, and he had no intention to do so. He should like to see a creditable organisation, and one that would command the support of the middle and lower classes.

The motion for the election of Mr. Wilson was then carried unanimously.

The meeting then proceeded to the election of vice-presidents and the executive committee (the latter including all chairmen of local committees that should join the Union). The lists of vice-presidents included the names of most of the leading Reformers in the country.

The CHAIRMAN said he was reminded that a motion made in the morning had not been formally submitted to the vote. It was—"That the objects of the National Reform Union shall be sought to be accomplished by means of lectures, the diffusion of information, annual general conferences, and by such other means as from time to time the Council shall determine." The resolution was agreed to unanimously.

The Conference proceeded to appoint a secretary and other officers, and this concluded the business.

In connection with the Conference, and as a fitting conclusion to its proceedings, a meeting of the friends of Reform was held in the large room of the Free-trade Hall on Wednesday night. Mr. F. Taylor was in the chair, in the absence of Mr. Alderman Heywood, who was announced to preside. Mr. P. RYLAND, of Warrington, moved the first resolution, rejoicing in the deliberation of the Conference and in the formation of a National Reform Union, and calling upon all kindred associations and the Liberals of the country to accord to the Union their earnest and decided support. Mr. HANDEL COSSHAM, of Bristol, in an able speech, seconded the motion. He was not depressed, he said, on account of the present position of the Reform question, and believed that the old feeling would revive again. There were those in that room (he hoped many of them) who would live to see a reform bill which would place the Government of this country on a firmer, because on a broader, basis than it now occupied. Professor FAWCETT said he wished for reform for two reasons—first, because he thought the people were justly entitled to it; and secondly, because he thought a reform of the representative system would improve the constitution and nature of the House of Commons. He felt that there was no class more intelligent, more independent, and more sincerely anxious to promote the honour and prosperity of the country than the working men by whose skill and labour the wealth of the country was being accumulated, and by whom everything that was great and glorious in the material prosperity of the country had been achieved. (Cheers.) Why should not working men be admitted freely to the suffrage? They had shown that their instincts were noble, and they were the foundation that had maintained the institutions of the country. He was in the crowd at London on Monday week, and if he had not been in favour of the franchise being extended that would have convinced him of its safety. Hundreds of thousands were assembled, and not a soldier, scarcely a policeman, was necessary to keep them in order. (Hear, hear.) And what did they go to honour? Was it great wealth or power? No; they went to honour indomitable courage, associated with the most entire unselfishness. (Cheers.) Mr. Fawcett then at some length contended that the working classes had proved their fitness for electoral power by their conduct and increased intelligence. (Cheers.) Mr. MASON JONES and other gentlemen addressed the meeting, which concluded with the usual vote of thanks to the chairman.

Court, Official, and Personal News.

The Queen and Royal family, attended by the ladies and gentlemen in waiting, arrived at Osborne at half-past seven o'clock on Wednesday night, from Windsor Castle. Her Majesty's health, though still requiring care, has not suffered from the fatigue of the journey.

It is stated that Lord Wodehouse will probably be appointed Under-Secretary for India in the House of Lords.

A letter from Lord E. Clinton, to the Provincial Grand Secretary of the Freemasons at Nottingham, respecting the Duke of Newcastle's health, states:—"I fear that it is useless to shut our eyes altogether to the critical condition that my father is in, but I am happy to be able to tell you that a consultation of four medical men has just taken place, and they

pronounce him rather better than he has been for the last few days."

Mr. Childers, the new Junior Lord of the Admiralty, has been re-elected for Pontefract without opposition.

Mr. Bruce was re-elected for Merthyr yesterday, without opposition.

The *Army and Navy Gazette* understands that it is very likely the Government will purchase the China, Pekin, and Tientsin, which lately formed a portion of Captain Sherard Osborn's force.

On Saturday the Earl of Clarendon arrived at Osborne from London, and had the honour of dining with her Majesty and the Royal family.

The Queen, Prince Alfred, Princess Helena, and Princess Louise attended Divine service at Osborne on Saturday morning. The Rev. George Prothero performed the service.

Lord Palmerston had a reception on Saturday evening at Cambridge House, Piccadilly. There was a brilliant attendance, and among the diplomatic body were several of the Plenipotentiaries just arrived in London for the Conference. Baron de Beust, representative of the Germanic Diet, and M. de Quasade, the Danish Envoy, were amongst those present.

The University of Glasgow has conferred the degree of D.D. on the Rev. George Smith, of Trinity Chapel, Poplar.

The Society of Arts have decided upon presenting Sir Rowland Hill with the gold medal instituted in honour of the late Prince Consort for persons who have rendered special services to their country in connection with the arts, sciences, or commerce. It will on this, its first occasion, be made by the Prince of Wales in person.

Law and Police.

BEQUEST TO "THE MISSIONARY SOCIETY."—In the Rolls Court Mr. Wood applied on petition that a legacy left to "The" Missionary Society might be paid to the London Missionary Society under the following circumstances:—The London Missionary Society was established in the year 1795, but in 1818 altered its name to "The Missionary Society, usually known as the London Missionary Society." The gentleman who left the legacy belonged to a congregation of Independents, and upon the legacy becoming known a question was raised as to what society was meant by the description in his will of the Missionary Society—whether the London Missionary, or the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, &c. Upon inquiry it was found the testator was in the habit in his lifetime of subscribing very liberally to the London Missionary Society, and the other societies, on learning this, withdrew their claim. Under these circumstances it was asked that the legacy might be paid over to "The Missionary Society, usually called the London Missionary Society." The Court made the order as prayed.

A SLAVE-TRADE CASE.—On Friday Chief Justice Erle delivered a judgment in the Court of Common Pleas, in a case which was argued in Hilary Term on a petition of right against the Crown for the destruction of a vessel on the African coast by Captain Sholto Douglas, of her Majesty's ship *Espoir*, on the ground (which was denied) of the vessel being a slaver. The Court held that the Crown was not liable, because the suppression of the slave-trade was not imposed by the Crown but by an act of Parliament; because, if Captain Douglas had made a mistake, the responsibility lay with him and not with the Crown that appointed him to his ship; and because, though there were many instances of a petition of right being issued in cases of property wrongfully taken and withheld by the Crown, there was no precedent for such a proceeding in the case of a supposed wrong done by the Crown.

THE CASE OF THE RAPPAHANNOCK.—The indictment against Mr. Rumble for a breach of the Foreign Enlistment Act, in enlisting seamen for the *Rappahannock*, alias *Scylla*, was heard before a Middlesex grand jury in the Court of Queen's Bench on Monday. Mr. Justice Crompton charged the jury, and took a widely different view of the law on the subject from that taken by the Lord Chief Baron. The case will, in all probability, come on in a day or two.

THE CONFEDERATE PIRATES.—In the Court of Queen's Bench, on Monday, application was made for a rule for a writ of *habeas corpus* to bring up the bodies of the Confederate pirates at Liverpool. It will be remembered that three men were arrested at Liverpool, at the instance of the American Minister, on a charge of piracy committed on board the *Joseph L. Gerity*, which vessel they seized on her passage from Matamoros. The application was made on Monday, on the ground that the prisoners were subjects of the Confederate States, and were acting as belligerents under the direction of their Government. The object is to prevent the prisoners being sent to the United States for trial for piracy. The court granted the rule *nisi*.

Cleanings.

It is stated that the cotton imports into Liverpool within the ten days ending last Saturday have been valued at 5,758,045*l*.

UR OF THE CHALDEES.—The spot, the birthplace of Abraham, which was known as Edessa in the early ages of Christianity, and now as Orfa, is one of the mission-stations of the American Board.

"Suppose," said an examiner to a competitive in engineering, "you had built an engine yourself, per-

formed every part of the work without assistance, and knew that it was in complete order, but when put into a vessel the pump would not draw water, what would you do?" "Go to the side of the vessel, and ascertain if there was any water in the river," replied the competitive.

An Irish girl playing on Sunday being accosted by the Romish priest, "Good morning, daughter of the Evil One," meekly replied,—"Good morning, father."

An Irishman remarked to his companion, on observing a lady pass, "Pat, did you ever see so thin a woman as that?"—"Thin!" replied the other, "both rashune, I've seen a woman as thin as two of her put together."

DOCTORS DIFFER.—Sydney Smith put Catholic emancipation as common justice and common sense; Dr. McNeile puts it as a great national sin and the origin of the potato disease.—*Recreations of a Country Parson*.

PUT IT THROUGH THE KEYHOLE.—A half-famished fellow in the Southern States tells of a baker (whose loaves had been growing "small by degrees and beautifully less") who, when going his rounds to serve his customers, stopped at the door of one and knocked, when the lady within exclaimed, "Who's there?" and was answered, "The baker." "What do you want?" "To leave your bread." "Well, you needn't make such a fuss about it—put it through the keyhole."

Sir Lascelles Wrexall's "Life and Times of Caroline Matilda," Queen of Denmark (sister of George III.), from family documents and private state papers, will be published early in June, by Messrs. William H. Allen and Co.

"A FUSH ABOUT A LITTLE PIESE OF PORK."—"Pray," asked the Major, "have you heard my story of a Jew with a bad conscience?" "I never heard of a Jew with anything else," Erle said. "Anstruther and I, when in our extravagant young days, found it out to our cost." "Well," said the Major, "my Jew was a religious Jew, but had a weakness for roast pig, and loved to retire into the country to regale himself occasionally on the forbidden delicacy. Once, in the middle of one of his illicit repasts, there came on a thunderstorm. Every flash of lightning seemed a special judgment on his crime. The thunder went on; the flashes were awful; the little pig succulent; the Jew fumed, trembled, and ate. At last a louder clap than ever made him too frightened to continue. 'What a fush!' he exclaimed, as he resigned his knife and fork in indignation, 'what a fush about a little pieish of pork!'"

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

CITY, Tuesday Evening.

The demand for discount at the Bank of England has very much diminished during the week, but no reduction has yet been made in the present rate (7 per cent).

The closing quotation for Consols was,—for delivery, 91½ to 3, and for the account, 91½ to 3.

In our advertising columns will be found a prospectus of the Independent Fire Insurance Company (Limited), capital, one million, in 40,000 shares of 25*l*. The directors of this company purpose to transact fire business and that alone, being satisfied that it is thoroughly remunerative. They also remark that the contract being one terminable annually, the profits or loss arising determine in like manner, year after year, and exhibit at once a company's financial position and its resources. One [of the] special advantages offered to insurers appears to be the allowance upon payment for every policy and afterwards at each renewal, an immediate drawback, which, in many instances, will amount to a total extinction of the entire duty of three shillings per cent.

REFORMATORY AND REFUGE UNION.—The public meeting of the various schools and refuges connected with this union took place on Tuesday evening in the great room, Exeter Hall, and was attended by a densely-crowded audience. Before the commencement of the formal proceedings of the occasion, which were presided over by the Earl of Shaftesbury, half-an-hour was agreeably passed in listening to several pieces very well sung by the six hundred children who filled the platform, and whose young voices, heard to the best advantage in familiar melodies such as "Auld lang syne" and "God save the Queen," raised an enthusiasm among their partial auditors such as choirs of far higher pretensions sometimes strive in vain to excite. Among the songs which were so successful as to be encored were "Home, sweet home," which, as sung by a band of children who can never have known the sentiments expressed in that fine old ditty, could not but touch the sympathies of all present, and a religious piece set to the ringing tune of the "Hardy Norseman." At seven o'clock the chair was taken, when, after a hymn had been sung and the secretary's report read, speeches were made by Dr. Lankester and the Rev. William Brook, both of whom urged the claims of the institutions represented on the occasion in eloquent and forcible language. Another hymn was then sung and a collection made, after which Lord Shaftesbury, who was saluted by vehement cheers from all parts of the hall, and three rounds of hurrahs from the young occupants of the orchestra, delivered an address to the children, which brought the meeting to a close.

Literature.

SHAW'S "MANUAL OF ENGLISH LITERATURE."

The work before us belongs to that series of "Manuals" whose uniform scarlet edges and black covers are so familiar to students, and whose high average excellence has rendered their publication an epoch in the history of school-books. Our opinion has before this been sufficiently expressed of the great value of other works in the same field as the present, by Marsh, Craik, Spalding and others. But to say nothing of the fact that Mr. Shaw's work has already been to a certain extent approved by the English-speaking public on both sides of the Atlantic, there was yet room for another, which while comprehensive enough to allow of a full and adequate treatment of the entire subject, might yet be compact enough for the use of students. Mr. Marsh's "History of English Literature" is designed for the library rather than for the desk; moreover it stops short at the very threshold of the English "Temple of Fame." A special feature of the present manual is the fulness with which it treats Shakespeare and the golden age of the English drama generally; while, with the exception of Chaucer, the pre-Elizabethan period—where Marsh is so full and even exhaustive—is passed over somewhat cursorily. It appears to have been no part of the author's plan to enter into the philological portion of his subject; and with so inimitable a discussion of this element in Marsh's "Lectures," this is scarcely to be regretted.

Mr. Shaw agrees with Mr. Marsh in regarding English as a distinct language from Anglo-Saxon. Indeed, only an exaggerated affectation of Saxon affinities could, it seems to us, have dictated any other view. It is hardly too much to say, that the English of the present day is as distinct from the language into which Alfred rendered the history of Orosius, as modern French is from the diction of Cicero and Cæsar. True, it is impossible to draw a clearly defined line between English and its predecessor, but so it is in the other case also. And has history any instance to give of cognate languages, acknowledged to be distinct, which owe their distinction to other than gradual causes? We throw not. Apart from the philological question, Mr. Shaw shows that the growth of an *English feeling*—as distinguished from Saxon or Norman predilections—was one of the great conditions of the development of a truly English literature. The victory of Sluys, Creçi, Poitiers, shared as they were by those of Norman and of Saxon descent alike, did not a little towards "consummating the fusion into one vigorous 'nationality of the two elements which formed the English people and the English language.'" In fact, English literature may be said to begin with Chaucer and Langland, as Greek begins with the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*. Up to the time of Edward III., a language had been developing itself; when "the morning star of song" first "made his music heard below," a new *Literature*, and one inferior to no other past or present, was fittingly inaugurated by

"Those melodious bursts."

Without the support of sturdy, individual national feeling, that literature would never have become the thing it has. Already, in the time of Chaucer and Langland, we find it displaying that blended tenderness and strength, that passionate enjoyment of nature, that genial sympathy with humanity in its various aspects, and that breadth and comprehensiveness of treatment, which so conspicuously characterised it in its after developments.

But the glories of the fourteenth century—great alike in arms, art, and song—were destined to be overcast, much as our sweet English spring mornings are apt to be. The century from Henry IV. to Henry VIII. is gloomy and lowering. Burning of heretics, a disputed crown, bloody civil wars—such were the ill-omened conditions under which the genius of England was then to develop itself. And mournfully suggestive of the gloom of those times is the fact that in any literary record of such as the present, that century is almost a blank. Caxton did not begin to print till 1471, and it was a work of time for the new dawn of ancient literature on the continent, even with so potent an engine as the printing-machine, largely to diffuse its rays through this country. And the Wars of the Roses were not over till 1485.

Mr. Shaw's account of the development of the English drama in the 15th and 16th centuries, through the Miracle-plays, Moralities, and Interludes went to be celebrated on festival days,

—is on the whole tolerably complete. But it is not without traces of haste in writing. Thus, in p. 115, we are told, correctly enough, that—

"A very industrious writer of these Moralities was Bishop Bale (1495-1563), who must also be regarded as one of the founders of our national drama, as he produced various pieces deriving their materials from the history of his own country, as for instance the tragedy of *King John*."

Yet, on p. 117—after paragraphs containing an account of the Interludes (to which perhaps most immediately the drama may trace its pedigree), and the *tableaux vivants* which formed so conspicuous an element in holiday pageantry—we are carried back once more and compelled to take over again the last step of the "progress," namely, the scenic representation "by means of 'the action and dialogue of human personages, 'of some event of history or social life': and we are told over again what Bale did, and especially of his "drama of 'King John.'" And, in the course of the same discussion, after speaking of the boast of Reuchlin, that he was "the first to 'furnish the youth of Germany with comedies 'bearing some similarity to the master-pieces of 'Terence,'—the writer informs us, that 'at an 'incomparably earlier period' Gregory of Nazianzus did something similar. If a popular lecturer spoke thus we should excuse him; but it reads oddly in a book, and that one designed for the student.

Mr. Shaw's critical remarks upon Shakspeare and the other great dramatists who cluster round him are exceedingly good. We quote the following, as well in illustration of the myriamindedness of Shakspeare as to give a fair specimen of Mr. Shaw's powers of criticism:—

"Possessing only the dramas of Shakspeare, it would be totally impossible for us to deduce any notion of what were the sympathies and tendencies of the author. He is absolutely impersonal; or, rather, he is all persons in turn: for no poet ever possessed to a like degree the portentous power of successively identifying himself with a multitude of the most diverse individualities, and of identifying himself so completely that we cannot detect a trace of preference. Let us suppose a man capable of conceiving and delineating such a picture of jealousy as we have in the tragedy of 'Othello.' Would not such a man be irresistibly impelled to do a second time what he had so admirably done the first? But Shakspeare, when he has once thrown off such a character as Othello, never recurs to it again. Othello disappears from the stage as completely as a real Othello would have done from the world, and leaves behind him no similar personage. True, Shakspeare has given us a number of other pictures of jealous men; but their jealousy is as different from that of Othello as in real life the jealousy of one man is from that of another. Leontes, Ford, Posthumus, are all equally jealous; but how different is the passion manifested in each of these."—P. 155.

Our limits will not allow us to follow Mr. Shaw down the still widening—if not deepening—stream. The increasing extent of the subject, indeed, becomes a main difficulty in dealing with it. In general Mr. Shaw shows a sound discretion in the authors selected by him as characteristic, in any other way deserving notice. Only in the most recent times is he, apparently, somewhat arbitrary. Thomas Hood, Winthrop M. Praed, E. Barrett Browning, were surely as worthy of selection as Barry Cornwall—or G. P. R. James!

In minor points we not unfrequently differ from Mr. Shaw. Thus in his explanation of the difference between analytical and synthetical inquiry, *apropos* of the publication of Bacon's "Organon" and "De Augmentis," he seems to us to do injustice to Aristotle, in making him more or less accountable for the profitless subtleties with which the schoolmen amused themselves. Aristotle was perhaps, of all the ancients, the one with whom Bacon himself would have most thoroughly sympathised, and he would—we doubt not—have been both amused and amazed at the use made of his name. It is indeed as absurd to ascribe the subtleties of the "Doctors" to Aristotle as the darkness of mediæval times to the Bible. Again, we object, strongly, to the way in which Mr. Shaw uniformly speaks of our "Puritan" spiritual fathers. "Gloomy doctrines of Puritanism"—"gloomy mysticism of Calvinistic piety"—"acrimony" and "fanaticism" of the Puritan party—are his most marked characterizations of a movement in the direction of spirituality and Scriptural fidelity which carried with it a fair moiety (to say the least) of the goodness and energy of the nation. By the way, Mr. Shaw is incorrect, we believe, in placing the statute which made the witnessing of a theatrical performance penal, in 1642. If this were so (in point of fact we believe it was four or five years later), it would only serve to show that even at a comparatively early period, when the Tory Parliament was acknowledged fairly to represent the nation, the best feeling and wisdom of the country were opposed to the theatre. Mr. Shaw further represents the impurity of the Restoration Drama as a mere reaction from the preciseness of Puritan times. There is doubtless some amount of truth in this view; but Charles would have been a rake and have cherished rakishness, there is little doubt, whatever had been the fortunes of Puritanism;

and as Mr. Shaw points out, such was the impurity of the stage, even before the time of its suppression, that the production of corrupt and lewd scenes was a necessity which even dramatists of pure and virtuous mind could not escape (p. 171). Nor do we entirely approve of the characterization of Homer as a "mysterious personality" (p. 65);—or of the historical criticism which places Tacitus above Herodotus;—or (which has more immediately to do with the subject of English Literature), with the opinion that Milton's choice of the "Temptation" as the subject of the "Paradise Regained" is to be attributed either to the poet's "advanced age or to 'the consciousness of failing powers.'" On these and a few other points, we should join issue with the author; but, on the whole, we are able heartily to acknowledge the candour, penetration, judiciousness, and catholicity of his literary judgments.

"Who feeds fat oxen, should himself be fat":—at any rate, who criticises English authors, should himself be unimpeachable in respect to those accuracies of composition which are accessible to all. Unfortunately, while Mr. Shaw's style is in general accurate and manly, instances of slipshod expression occur more frequently than they ought. "Solidarity" and "rehabilitation," are in our opinion barbarisms: nor is the latter recommended to sympathy by its forming a substitute for "redemption" or "restoration." Perhaps such expressions as, "it is uncertain 'whether to attribute,' and 'it would be misplaced to enter into'" (both p. 217), are Americanisms; for the work in its original form was designed for the use of an American collegiate institution. But sentences like the following strike us as quite inexcusable on any ground:—

"The drama, as it is one of the most splendid and perhaps the most intensely national department of our literature, so its origin and development were peculiar."—P. 111.

"Ingenuity predominates over feeling [in Cowley, &c.]; and while Milton owed to many of these poets, whom I have ventured, in accordance with Johnson, to style the 'metaphysical' class, nevertheless we must allow, &c."—P. 176.

"They [two poems of Milton] are of nearly the same length, and written in similar versification."—P. 208.

"The enormous scope of the undertaking [the 'Decline and Fall'] rendered indispensable the most vast and accurate knowledge, not only of the whole range of classical, Byzantine, mediæval, and oriental literature, but such a largeness of view, &c."—P. 358.

"His poetical productions, which are tolerably voluminous, may be divided into two very marked and distinct categories, his serious and comic or satiric writings."—P. 62.

(The italics are of course ours.)

It is a pity that one who could write so well as Mr. Shaw evidently could, should have allowed himself—from whatever cause—to perpetrate such inaccuracies as the above. While, however, they, to some extent, impair the elegance of the work, they in no way interfere with its practical use. We have only to add to this notice that Dr. Smith has judiciously appended to the several chapters, brief accounts (in small type) of such literary persons as had not appeared to the author sufficiently important to notice in the text of his work.

THE QUARTERLIES.

The *Westminster Review* would be much improved by greater variety in the arrangement of its subjects, and more sprightliness in the mode of treating them. Readers who enjoy it must certainly have considerable powers of intellectual digestion, for, while its articles are able and elaborate, often furnishing valuable information, and marked by vigorous thinking, they are very rarely lively or entertaining. They run too much in the same groove,—elaborate dissertations on points of political economy, clever, though often very bitter, assaults on orthodox Christianity, philosophical essays which may be profound, but are certainly very dry;—but very seldom anything of a more lively character. Among its most interesting papers are its geographical articles, of which we have an admirable specimen in the present number, in a review of recent works on "The Basin of the Upper Nile, and its Inhabitants," in which Captain Speke is dealt with in a way to which he has been little accustomed. His egotism and selfishness are mercilessly exposed, his overbearing treatment of the natives reproached as it deserves, and several of his conclusions shown to be indefensible. The article on "Strikes and Industrial Co-operation" is thoughtful and suggestive, laying down sound principles, and bringing out an array of valuable and instructive facts. The writer on the "Abolition of Tests" states the case against them with great force, arguing that they not only fail to accomplish their alleged purpose of securing unanimity, but are the fruitful source of the very divisions they are instituted to prevent, "the means, the visible and tangible means, 'by which Oxford is kept in a perpetual state of bitterness and strife,' 'at once fuel and bellows to the 'odium theologicum.'" The influence which they exert in excluding Nonconformists is well shown to be quite as much to the injury of the nation at large as of the particular victims of this injustice; while the inconsis-

* A History of English Literature. By THOMAS B. SHAW, M.A. A new edition, enlarged and rewritten. Edited with Notes and Illustrations by Dr. W. SMITH. Murray.

tency of those who first deprive Dissenters of those educational advantages to which, as citizens, they are entitled, and then taunt them with their ignorance and narrowness, receives a merited castigation.

"The Dissenters are rich, numerous, and have full political power; but a mental training proportionate to these has always been denied them. This policy is essentially a revolutionary policy. You allow them to thwart you or assist you in making laws; but the intellectual preparation to fit them for the task as far as in you lies you withhold from them. You let their votes and voices colour the statute-book; but you do all you can to prevent their votes and voices being wise and weighty. And this you call conservatism and the 'good old paths'! You will not meet these men at the university, where angles might be rubbed off, mutual esteem acquired, a community of intellectual tastes and habit imparted. You cannot forget you have to meet them at the hustings and in Parliament, fierce, angry, and prejudiced from mutual estrangement and from the consciousness of a wrong done and received. You dislike these men, and dread their hostility to much that you hold dear. You sometimes dwell complacently on their narrow bigotry and impracticable turn of mind. Do you expect to disarm their hostility by exclusiveness and injustice? Do you think that their narrowness will be removed by depriving them of classical and philosophical training? Do you suppose that their crotchets will disappear by compelling them to herd in coteries by themselves and only to leave them when they come forth to oppose you."

It is to be regretted that the writer, while so ably advocating just principles, should have thought it necessary to introduce here a sneering prophecy as to the "crumbling decay and eventual downfall of a widespread faith and cultus which have existed for centuries." In a review of "Taine's History of English Literature" we have an interesting, and on the whole, impartial, survey of our principal English writers. The general sketch of contemporary literature is one of the most valuable features of the *Westminster*, and the most interesting portion of this department is the condensed view of works of theological controversy which have appeared during the last quarter. Those who, like ourselves, are decidedly opposed to the writer's opinions may profit by the light he throws upon the direction which religious thought has taken amongst us.

The *National Review* gives us a number of fully average excellence. We have read with special interest the article on Ireland, and while dissenting from the writer's conclusions, cannot but admire the independent spirit in which he has treated his subject. Very carefully does he set forth the advantages which Ireland is reaping from the present extensive emigration, at the same time indicating the serious dangers which would result from its being carried too far, or embracing too large a proportion of the class which it is necessary to the welfare of the nation to retain. His statistics as to the prosperity of the country are instructive and encouraging. After listening carefully to the recent discussion of the House of Commons on the subject, we are disposed to think that he attaches too much importance to the number of undetected crimes, although we are convinced that he is right in his notion that the Irish Constabulary are "unfit for and adverse to the duties of police." Still more thoroughly do we agree with him in his view of the evils produced by the Irish Church. "It is the only real grievance of which Ireland can still complain. All her other evils at present come from the perversity of her natives. For a long time back Ireland has been petted in the place of being oppressed. Her infictions have been none; her exemptions have been many. Her taxes have been unfairly light; her jobs have been unscrupulously heavy and numerous. Irishmen have been placed and promoted wherever fit Irishmen can be found; but fit Irishmen are so few. What legislation could do for Ireland, it has done—since 1829." We could go even further than this, and say that all the special advantages that Ireland enjoys, have been granted in the hope of diverting attention from the one crying grievance. We differ, only from the writer as to the remedy he would apply. "We should be very glad to see the Protestant endowment handed over to the Catholic Church in all those parishes where there are not fifty or a hundred of the 'Protestant Establishment,' and beyond this, 'we should wish to allot at least a million per annum out of the Imperial (or the Irish) exchequer for the payment of the Catholic clergy.' This, we are told, would be very just, and Nonconformists who might be unable to perceive its equity may take comfort in the notion that their opposition would spring only from a 'mulish and savage bigotry.' We may be certain that this is the next form of State-Churchism against which we shall have to contend, and should be prepared to meet it. We shall be mistaken if we expect to find it at all more liberal in spirit or generous in its proceedings than the more exclusive system with which we have now to deal. We cannot enter here into the questions raised by the article on the Apocalypse. Suffice it to say that it indicates considerable familiarity with the subject, and that it is less extreme in tone and character than some papers of a similar class which have appeared in the *National*. It would have been all the better, however, if the writer had not in the closing paragraph, thrown off the restraint he had imposed upon himself and indulged himself in a style of assault which would seem to be more congenial to his taste than the more sober reasonings of the earlier portion of the paper. We do not belong to the 'prophecy-mongers,' but we cannot, therefore, approve the adoption of a mode of treatment towards them, which ignores the courtesies of

life and degrades controversy into a mere Billingsgate strife. We have three valuable historic papers—one on "the Provincial Assemblies of France"—another on "Charles the Bold," and the third on "the Germanic Diet," all of which will repay a careful perusal. The comparison between "Sterne and Thackeray" is done with great skill, by one whose critical powers are of no mean order. We dissent in toto from the views of the ingenious but dangerous paper on the "Early History of 'Messianic Ideas,'" but we cannot here examine them in detail.

The *British Quarterly* opens with an article on "Shakspeare" which is entitled to take high rank among the various dissertations on the subject which the Tercentenary commemoration has called forth. Its judicious estimate of the different influences which united to form the character and develop the genius of the poet—its careful and condensed account of the rise of the English drama—and its discriminating and appreciative criticism of Shakspeare's characteristics, give it great value, while the absence of the more rhodomontade in which too many have chosen to indulge is deserving of special notice and commendation. Mr. Gladstone's character as a financier is examined in a paper of considerable merit, by one who sympathises in his principles and attaches a high value to the services he has rendered to his country. The relation between "Trust" "Deeds and Religious Liberty" is discussed in a calm, thoughtful, and practical spirit, and though many will hesitate to accept its conclusions on a very vexed question, all must feel that the considerations which it urges have considerable weight. The "Crawley Court-Martial" is not the subject which we should have expected to find introduced here, and it is not treated in such a way as to commend it to our judgment. The style is very feeble, in some places slovenly, and the article, altogether, is much below the average. The "Privy Council Judgment" forms the subject of an elaborate paper, manly and decided in its utterances, yet generous and liberal in its spirit. We particularly admire the opening remarks on "Church Property," which set forth facts and principles which are frequently ignored by those who, in their demand for liberty, are apt to forget that Church property belongs to the nation; that tithe "is not a free gift from landowners, but a tax imposed by the State"; and that, therefore, the attempt to make things more comfortable to a favoured sect, involves a gross injustice to those whose conscientious Nonconformity deprives them of their share of the national heritage. There are two lighter papers—one on "English Sea Songs," and the other on "London 'Politics in the Fourteenth Century'"—both of them very pleasant reading and an agreeable relief to the more solid matter with which they are associated.

The ablest article in the *London Quarterly* is that on "Rénan's Life of Jesus" in which the writer completes his searching and vigorous criticism of that remarkable book. In a paper on the "Ancestry of the Wesleys" we have a detailed account of the father of John Wesley, a man in whose character there was certainly very little to admire. The reviewer seeks to present him in the most favourable aspect, but he cannot conceal the fact that the good man bore too close a resemblance to the notorious "Vicar of Bray." We have summaries of "Speke's Journal" and "Froude's Elizabeth," done with great fairness and skill, and very valuable to those who cannot find time to peruse the book themselves. "Shakspeare" affords subjects of a genial, intelligent, liberal, and well-written article. We can extend like praise to the paper on "Robert Browning's Poems" the spirit and style of which are very admirable. To another class of readers "Life in the Deep Sea" and "The Naturalist on the Amazons" will be very attractive.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

KETTLE.—April 14, at Burton-on-Trent, the wife of the Rev. G. Kettle, of a daughter.
FOYSTER.—April 22, the wife of the Rev. Albert Foyster, Eastbourne, of a daughter.
COOK.—April 22, at Effra Lodge, Cambridge-heath, N.E., the wife of Mr. John Cook, of a son.
SKEATS.—April 23, at 40, London-road, Croydon, Mrs. Herbert Skeats, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

HICKS—WEEKS.—April 12, by licence, at Counterslip Chapel, Bristol, by the Rev. R. P. Macmaster, Isaac Hicks, Esq., to Mrs. Eleanor Weeks, both of Cheltenham.
SPENCE—CRUICKSHANK.—April 14, at Burnend, Huntly, Aberdeenshire, by the Rev. James Spence, D.D., London, brother of the bridegroom, Alex. Spence, Esq., manufacturer, to Ann Cruickshank, eldest daughter of James Cruickshank, Esq., Huntly.
BROWN—HOLROYD.—April 16, at Horton-lane Chapel, Bradford, by the Rev. J. R. Campbell, D.D., Mr. J. Brown, to Miss Adelaide Holroyd, both of Bradford.
WILLAN—STABLES.—April 16, at Sion Chapel, Bradford, by the Rev. J. P. Chown, Mr. John Willan, to Miss Frances Stables, both of Bowling.
HURST—SYDDALL.—April 17, at the Independent Chapel, Little Lever, by the Rev. E. Pickford, Mr. William Hurst, to Mary, second daughter of Mr. James Syddall, both of Little Lever.
PATT—PARKER.—April 19, at Howe Chapel, Great Torrington, Devon, by the Rev. James Busspitt, Mr. George Patt, of High Bickington, Devon, yeoman, to Mary, daughter of Mr. Thomas Parker, of Little Torrington, in the same county.
HUGHES—SMITH.—HILL—SMITH.—April 19, at the Baptist Chapel, Astwood Bank, Worcestershire, by the Rev. John Phillips, assisted by the Rev. John Bartlett, of Worcester, Benjamin, son of John Hughes, Esq., of Alcester Park, to Elizabeth Ryan, eldest daughter of James Smith, Esq., of Doe Bank House, Astwood. Also, at same time and place, by the Rev. John Bartlett, assisted by the Rev. John Phillips, Mr. Thomas William Hill, son of Alderman Hill, of Worcester, to Bertha, third daughter of James Smith, Esq., aforesaid. No cards.

LUCAS—WHITWELL.—April 21, at the Friends' Meeting-house, Darlington, William Lucas, Esq., Hitchin, Herts, to Maria Jane, only daughter of the late Henry Whitwell, Esq., of West Lodge, Darlington.

CRAIG—MORRISON.—April 21, at East-parade Chapel, Leeds, by the Rev. Eustace Conder, Wm. Simpson Craig, Esq., M.D., M.R.C.S.E., Leeds, to Frances Margaret, daughter of the late Ralph S. Morrison, Esq., of New Barwick, Northumberland. No cards.

EXTON—DEACON.—April 21, at the General Baptist Chapel, Barton-in-the-Beans, by the Rev. E. Bott, assisted by the Rev. J. J. Goadby, Mr. Joseph Exton, of Hugglescote, to Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Mr. Samuel Deacon.

FOWLER—BROOK.—April 21, at the Congregational Church, Ryde, Isle of Wight, Mr. Samuel Fowler, of Ryde, to Mary Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Mr. James Brook, of Park Farm, St. Helen's, Isle of Wight.

DEATHS.

SEABORN.—Jan. 23, at Braidwood, to the inexpressible grief of her family, six weeks after the death of her eldest daughter, Mary Anne, the dearly-beloved wife of the Rev. H. S. Seaborn, Presbyterian minister, Braidwood. Her end was perfect peace.

JAFFRAY.—Feb. 2, at Buckingham-place North, Richmond, near Melbourne, aged twenty-six, Ellen, wife of William Jaffray, late of London.

WHEELER.—April 14, at the residence of her son, 3, York-place, Kingsland-road, Ann Wheeler, aged seventy-six.

WINTERBOTTOM.—April 18, aged sixty-five, Mr. Charles James Winterbottom, of Greenacres Moor, Oldham.

NUNNLEY.—April 23, Sarah Nunnley, of New-street, Leicester.

WHIBLEY.—April 23, at Maidstone, Esther, widow of the late Mr. Richard Whibley, of Sittingbourne, aged seventy-two.

MAUDSLAY.—April 23, at his residence, Knight's-hill, Norwood, Thomas Henry Maudslay, Esq., of Lambeth, and of Banstead Park, Surrey, aged seventy-two.

GLADSTONE.—April 24, at Pembroke-square, Alice Jane, daughter of Dr. J. H. Gladstone, aged ten.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—PREMATURE DECLINE.—The unwary and thoughtless may save themselves a sea of troubles in the future, by an early recourse to these excellent curatives. All blotches from whatever cause arising, all enlargements of the glands wherever situated, irritating sores and debilitating discharges, may be safely and certainly cured by employing Holloway's Ointment and Pills, in accordance with the instructions wrapped round each pot and box. No timidity need deter the weakest from applying to these restoratives, which exert the threefold qualities of purifying, regulating, and repairing without disturbing the stomach, annoying the nervous system, or rendering confinement to the house necessary. Holloway's medicaments will stem the source of many maladies, which when neglected perpetuate misery.

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, April 25.

The supply of wheat from Essex and Kent this morning was small, and there was a steady trade at about the currency of Monday last. There is only a retail sale for foreign wheat at about the quotations of last week. Barley realises about the prices of last Monday, but there is very little business passing. Beans and peas are firm at former rates. We have good arrivals of oats for the past week, but with a slow demand. The trade has been very inactive to-day at about the currency of Monday last.

BUTCHERS' MEAT, ISLINGTON, Monday, April 25

The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 4,412 head. The show of foreign stock in to-day's market was only moderate. On the whole the demand for it ruled steady, and the quotations, generally, are well supported. The arrivals of beasts from our own grazing districts, as well as from Scotland, were tolerably good, and most breeds came to hand in good saleable condition. From Ireland, however, the receipts were limited. On the whole the beef trade ruled steady, at full currencies. The prime Scots sold at 4s. 10d., in some instances at 5s. per 8lbs. From Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire, we received 2,009 Scots, crosses, and shorthorns; from other parts of England, 600 various breeds; from Scotland, 326 Scots and crosses; and from Ireland, 100 oxen and heifers. With most breeds of sheep we were fairly but not to say heavily supplied; but their general condition was good. All breeds commanded a steady inquiry, and a few transactions took place at slightly enhanced rates. The best Downs in the wool sold at 6s. out of the wool 4s. 10d. per 8lbs. There was an increased supply of Lambs in the pens. Prime breeds sold freely on rather higher terms; but inferior breeds were a dull inquiry at late rates. Prices ranged from 6s to 7s 4d per 8lbs. About 500 arrived from the Isle of Wight. Calves—the supply of which was only moderate—moved off slowly, at about previous rates. The sale for pigs was heavy at late rates.

Per 8lbs. to sink the Offal.

	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.		
Inf. coarse beasts	3	4	to	3	8	Prime Southdown	5	10	to	6	0
Second quality	3	10	4	2		Lambs	6	0	7	4	
Prime large oxen	4	4	4	6		Lge. coarse calves	4	4	5	0	
Prime Scots, &c.	4	8	4	10		Prime small	5	2	5	4	
Coarse inf. sheep	3	8	4	4		Large hogs	3	6	4	0	
Second quality	4	8	5	2		Meat-sm. porkers	4	2	4	6	
Pr. coarse woolled	5	4	5	8							

Smoking calves, 17 to 23s. Quarter-cild store pigs, 20s to 26s each.

Smoking calves, 17s to 23s. Quarter-cilstore pigs, 20s to 26s each.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, April 25.

The arrivals of meat from Scotland and the West of England continue on a moderately extensive scale, and with town-killed meat the markets are fairly supplied. The trade, however, is dull at our quotations.

Per 8lbs. by the carcass.

	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.
Inferior beef	2	10	to	3	2	Small pork	4	0	to 4
Middling ditto	3	4	3	8		Inf. mutton	3	6	3 10
Prime large do.	3	10	4	0		Middling ditto	4	0	4 4
Do. small do.	4	0	4	2		Prime ditto	4	4	4 6
Large pork.	3	2	3	10		Veal	3	10	4 8

BREAD.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 6½d to 7d; household ditto, 5d to 6d.

PROVISIONS, Monday, April 25.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 431 firkins butter, and 3,117 bales of bacon; and from foreign ports 11,335 casks of butter, and 942 bales and 822 boxes of bacon. The sale for new fourth Cokes being slow, prices rapidly declined to 8s landed. The supply of foreign increasing, prices declined 4s to 8s per cwt; best Dutch 10s to 10s. The bacon market ruled firm but quiet, the dealers purchasing only as they are in want; prices unchanged.

POTATOES.—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, April 25.—Large supplies of potatoes continue on sale at these markets. For all qualities the trade is dull, and the quotations have a downward tendency. Yorkshire Regents 50s to 70s, ditto Flukes 90s to 80s, ditto Rocks 40s to 50s, Scotch Regents 50s to 70s, ditto Rocks 40s to 50s, Kent and Essex Regents 45s to 60s, per ton.

OIL, Monday, April 25.—Linseed oil is a slow sale at 39s 3d per cwt. on the spot. Rape is steady at 43s 6d for foreign refined, and 41s 6d to 42s for brown. Gallipoli olive oil has advanced to 62s per tun. Cocoonut, is rather cheaper; but other oils rule stationary in price. French spirits of turpentine are selling at 53s 6d per cwt. American refined petroleum 2s 2½d per gallon.

seed is quite as dear for all fine qualities. Trefolls are without alteration.

TALLOW, Monday, April 25.—The tallow trade continues dull, and a further decline has taken place in the quotations. P.Y.C. is quoted at 40s 3d per cwt. on the spot; rough fat has fallen to 2s 1d per 8lbs. Town tallow 39s 6d net cash.

Advertisements.

CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL, LEWISHAM

(For the SONS of CONGREGATIONAL MINISTERS).
The ANNUAL MEETING was held in the CONGREGATIONAL LIBRARY, BLOMFIELD-STREET, on TUESDAY, April 26th.

R. J. KITCHENER, Esq., in the Chair.
The number of Votes polled for the several Candidates was as follows, and the FIRST FIVE were declared duly elected.

1 Young, T. O.	2,141	11 Oliver, S.	307
2 Dadswell, W. S. . . .	2,021	12 Jones, W. D. . . .	278
3 Nicholson, E. T. . . .	1,733	13 Merchant, F. . . .	226
4 Newton, W. F.	1,689	14 Close, W. H. . . .	205
5 Williams, C. R.	963	15 Davies, G.	193
6 Lewis, E. S.	705	16 Pike, J.	185
7 Hughes, T. J.	613	17 Jones, O. J. . . .	140
8 Bailey, E. J.	475	18 Oakley, F. T. . . .	129
9 Bell, T. D.	448	19 Bailey, A.	89
10 Harber, W. J.	392		

N.R.—The ANNUAL SERMON on behalf of the School will be PREACHED at the CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, GRAFTON-SQUARE, CLAPHAM COMMON, on THURSDAY next, May 5, by the Rev. C. H. SPURGEON.

Service to commence at Twelve o'clock precisely.

VALUABLE COPYHOLD RESIDENCE AND LAND, SHEPHERD'S-BUSH, UXBRIDGE-ROAD, MIDDLESEX, held of the Manor of Fulham, at nominal Quit Rents and Fines. With possession.

MR. ABBOTT is instructed to SELL by AUCTION at the AUCTION-MART, opposite the Bank of England, on WEDNESDAY, May 11th, 1864, at One o'clock precisely, a very desirable DETACHED VILLA RESIDENCE, known as TAVISTOCK VILLA, with coach-house and two-stall stable; standing in its own grounds, having a frontage to the Uxbridge-road of about 191 feet, and a depth of about 80 feet, affording an opportunity for building other villa residences on part of the garden.

Printed particulars and conditions of sale, with lithographed plans, may be had of Messrs. Parker, Rooke, and Parkers, 17, Bedford-row, London; Mr. R. B. Biddome, 27, Nicholas-lane, Lombard-street; and of Mr. Abbott, 26, Bedford-row, London, and Eynesbury, St. Neots, Huntingdonshire.

POLYTECHNIC.

Patron: His Royal Highness the Prince of WALES.
Every day at Three and Eight, except Monday and Thursday Evenings, when it is given at Nine o'clock, Professor Pepper's New Ghost Lecture (J. H. Pepper and Henry Dircks, joint inventors). 1st part—Ye Knight watching his armour. 2nd part—The Ghosts of Shakespeare. 3rd part—The Ghost of the Diving Bell. Heineke's patent diving dress. During the Ghost Lecture Professor Pepper will retire, and appear on the stage as a Ghost a few inches high. Lecture by J. L. King, Esq., on "Some of the Aquatic Insects, and their transformations." Mr. G. W. Jester's Ventriloquial Entertainment.

CLOCK MAKING.

"Benson's great piece of clock work is certainly a marvellous achievement in clock-making, both as regards the workmanship, and its capacity under difficult circumstances for time measuring."—*Mechanics' Magazine*, Sept. 15, 1863.

Clocks by the first artists of the day for the drawing-room, dining-room, bed-room, library, hall, staircase, bracket, carriage, church, turret, railways, warehouse, counting-house, musical, and astronomical. Church and turret clocks specially estimated for. Benson's illustrated pamphlet on clocks (free by post for two stamps) with descriptions and prices, enables those who live in any part of the world to select a clock. Also a short pamphlet on Cathedral and public clocks, free for one stamp. Prize Medal and Honourable Mention in classes 35 and 15. J. W. Benson, 33 and 34, Ludgate-hill, London. Established 1749.

Watch and Clock Maker by Special Warrant of Appointment to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.



OSTEONIDON.

MESSRS. GABRIEL'S INVENTION.

GABRIEL'S Self-adhesive PATENT Indestructible MINERAL TEETH and FLEXIBLE GUMS, without palates, springs, or wires, and without operation, are indestructible, and warranted for mastication or articulation, at half the usual cost.

MESSRS. GABRIEL,

THE OLD-ESTABLISHED DENTISTS,

27, HARLEY-STREET, CAVENDISH-SQUARE;
34, LUDGATE-HILL (over Benson's, Silversmith), LONDON
184, DUKE-STREET, LIVERPOOL; and
65, NEW-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.

AMERICAN MINERAL TEETH, from Four to Seven and Ten to Fifteen Guineas per Set, best in Europe, warranted. Gabriel's Practical "Treatise on the Teeth" gratis.

GABRIEL'S WHITE GUTTA-PERCHA ENAMEL, chemically prepared for personal use, prevents Toothache, and arrests decay, supersedes all metallic stoppings. Prepared only by Messrs GABRIEL, and sold by all Chemists, at 1s. 6d. per box, with directions for use, or post free Twenty Stamps.

TEETH and PAINLESS DENTISTRY.

Messrs. LEWIN MOSELY and SONS, 30, Berners-street, Oxford-street, and 443, Strand (opposite Charing-cross Railway Station), Established 1820, offer to the Public a medium for supplying Artificial Teeth on a system of PAINLESS DENTISTRY. These Teeth are cheaper, more natural, comfortable and durable than any yet produced. They are self-adhesive, affording support to Loose Teeth, rendering unnecessary either wires or ligatures, require but one visit to fit, and are supplied at prices completely defying competition. Consultation free. Teeth from 5s. Sets, 5, 7, 10, and 15 guineas, warranted. For the efficacy and success of this system, vide "Lancet." No connexion with any one of the same name.

REMOVAL.—Messrs. ALEX and JONES, Surgeon-Dentists, have REMOVED their practice to 53, BROOK-STREET, GROSVENOR-SQUARE, in consequence of their premises, 31, New Bridge-street, being required by the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway.

TEETH supplied by Messrs. GODFREY received the Prize Medal awarded at the International Exhibition of 1862. One visit only required for their adjustment. They will last a life, and again restore the sunken face to its original beauty. A set from 2l. 10s. to Thirty Guineas. Stumps extracted painlessly. Teeth filled with gold—guaranteed for twenty years.
17, Hanover-street, Hanover-square, W.

DINERS À LA Russe.

A VARIETY OF NEW DESIGNS

IN
SILVER PLATE AND SILVER GILT
DINNER SERVICES

FOR THE SEASON 1864.

MAY BE SEEN AT

MAPPIN BROTHERS,

Silversmiths,

LONDON BRIDGE, & 222, REGENT STREET W
MANUFACTORY AT SHEFFIELD.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1810.

SECOND-HAND PLATE PURCHASED OR EXCHANGED.

SAUCE.—LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE.

This delicious Condiment, pronounced by Connoisseurs

"THE ONLY GOOD SAUCE,"

Is prepared solely by LEA and PERRINS.

The Public are respectfully cautioned against worthless imitations, and should see that LEA and PERRINS' Names are on Wrapper, Label, Bottle, and Stopper.

ASK FOR LEA AND PERRINS' SAUCE.

Sold Wholesale and for Export, by the Proprietors, Worcester; Messrs. CROSE and BLACKWELL; Messrs. Barclay and Sons, London, &c., &c., and by Grocers and Oilmen universally.

TAYLOR BROTHERS' GENUINE MUSTARD.

Dr. HASSELL, having subjected this mustard to a rigorous microscopical examination and chemical analysis, reports that it contains the three essential properties of good Mustard, viz:—

PURITY, PUNGENCY, AND DELICATE FLAVOUR.

See that each Package bears their Trade Mark the "Prize Ox," and Dr. Haswell's Report.

Sold by all Grocers, &c., throughout the kingdom.

TAYLOR BROTHERS, Brick-lane, & Wentworth-street, London, N.E.

THE ROYAL OSBORNE

(PATENT) MIXTURE OF

BLACK TEAS,

Of which Dr. Haswell says, "I find the black mixed teas to be perfectly genuine, and selected from the choicest kinds."

6lb. tin canisters sent to any railway-station carriage free. Prices 3s. 8d. and 4s. 8d. per lb. 1 lb. samples may be had of the patentees, FRANKS, SON, and CO., 40, Queen-street, Cannon-street West.

HORNIMAN'S PURE TEA

It is CHOICE and STRONG, BECAUSE it consists of most valuable growths that are full of rich essential properties.

It is MODERATE in PRICE, BECAUSE it is supplied direct from the importers to the consumers by Agents.

It is WHOLESOME to use, BECAUSE the leaf is not faced with the usual powdered mineral colours.

These COMBINED ADVANTAGES have secured for this Tea a general preference. It is sold in sealed packets, with the price printed on each, and signed—

Horniman & Co.

CHEAP AND GOOD WINES.

Offley's and Cockburn's Port, 40s.; Sherries from 18s.; and Clarets from 14s.

To be obtained Pure and Cheap of

THE IMPERIAL WINE COMPANY,

Which imports the choicest Wines and sells to the Public at Reasonable Prices.

CELLARS—MARYLEBONE COURT HOUSE, W.

STORES AND OFFICES—314, OXFORD-STREET, W.

EXPORT AND BOTTLING VAULTS—15, JOHN-STREET, CRUTCHED FRIARS, E.C., LONDON.

EAU-DE-VIE.—This Pure PALE BRANDY,

18s. per gallon, is peculiarly free from acidity, and very superior to recent importations of Cognac. In French bottles, 38s. per dozen; or in a case for the country, 39s., railway carriage paid.—No Agents, and to be obtained only of HENRY BRETT and CO., Old Fumival's Distillery, Holborn, E.C., and 30, Regent-street, Waterloo-place, S.W. Prices current free on application.

KINAHAN'S LL WHISKY VERSUS COGNAC BRANDY.

This celebrated old IRISH WHISKY rivals the finest French brandy. It is pure, mild, mellow, delicious, and very wholesome. Sold in bottles, 3s. 8d. each, at most of the respectable retail houses in London; by the appointed agents in the principal towns in England; or wholesale at 8, Great Windmill-street, Haymarket, W. Observe the red seal, pink label and cork, branded "Kinahan's LL Whisky."

BORWICK'S BAKING POWDER.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

In consequence of George Borwick's premises, 21, Little Moorfields, being required for the Metropolitan Railway Terminus, his temporary Warehouse is at

16 and 17, COMMERCIAL-STREET, WHITECHAPEL, until the completion of his new and more extensive premises in Chiswell-street, Finsbury.

PIANOFORTES FOR HIRE. CARRIAGE FREE.

Option of Purchase, on Convenient Terms, at any Period.

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CITY OF LONDON MANUFACTORY, AND EXTENSIVE SHOW-ROOMS,

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An extensive assortment of PIANOFORTES, WARRANTED New and Second-hand. Every Description and Price.

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PIANOFORTES, with EASY TERMS of PURCHASE.

Honourable mention for good and cheap Pianofortes was given by the Jury at the Great International Exhibition, 1862, to MOORE and MOORE, 104, Bishopsgate-street Within, London, E.C. See the Royal Commissioners' Report. Pianofortes Extraordinary. These Pianofortes are of rare excellence, with the best improvements, recently applied, which effect a grand, a pure and delightful quality of tone, that stands unrivalled. Prices from Eighteen Guineas.

First-class Pianofortes for hire, with easy terms of purchase. A very large and choice Stock for Selection; also a variety of Second-hand Pianofortes at low prices.

The Best Harmoniums for Sale or Hire. Carriage free.

COALS.—Best Sunderland, 25s.; Newcastle or Hartlepool, 24s.; best Silkestone, 22s.; Clay Cross, 22s. and 20s.; Coke, per chaldron, 14s.

B. HIBBERDINE, Sussex and Union Wharfs, Regent's park; Chief Offices: 169 and 266, Tottenham-court-road.

COALS.—Best Coals only.—GEO. J. COCKERELL and Co.'s price is now 26s. per ton cash for the BEST SCREENED COALS, as supplied by them to her Majesty and H. R. H. the Prince of Wales—13, Cornhill, E.C.; Furse-street, Earl-street, Blackfriars, E.C.; Eaton-wharf, Grosvener-canal, Pimlico, S.W.; and Sunderland-wharf, Peckham, S.E.

COALS.—By SCREW STEAMERS, and RAILWAY.—HIGHBURY and KINGSLAND COAL DEPOTS.—No Travellers or Agents employed.—LEA and CO.'S price for HETTON, HASWELL, and LAMBTON WALLSEND, the best House Coal in the world, direct from the Collieries by screw steamers, is 25s. per ton: Hartlepool, 24s.; best small, 18s.; Tanfield, for Smith's, 20s.; Inland, by Railway:—Silkestone, first-class, 22s.; second-class, 21s.; Clay Cross, 22s. and 20s.; Barnsley, 19s.; Hartley, 18s. Coke, 14s. Net cash. Delivered, screened, to any part of London. All orders direct to LEA and CO.'S, Chief Offices, North London Railway Stations, Highbury, Islington, or Kingland.

FENDERS, STOVES, FIRE-IRONS, and CHIMNEY-PIECES.

—Buyers of the above are requested, before finally deciding, to visit WILLIAM S. BURTON'S SHOW-ROOMS. They contain such an assortment of FENDERS, STOVES, RANGES, CHIMNEY-PIECES, FIRE-IRONS, and GENERAL IRONMONGERY, as cannot be approached elsewhere, either for variety, novelty, beauty of design, or exquisiteness of workmanship. Bright stoves, with ornate ornaments, £3 15s. to £33 10s.; bronzed fenders, with standards, 7s. to £5 12s.; steel fenders, £3 3s. to £11; ditto, with rich ornate ornaments, from £3 3s. to £18; chimney-pieces, from £1 5s. to £100; fire-irons, from 2s. 3d. the set to £4 4s. The BURTON and all other PATENT STOVES, with radiating hearth-plates.

BEDSTEADS, BATHS, and LAMPS.—

WILLIAM S. BURTON has Six Large Show-Rooms devoted exclusively to the separate display of Lamps, Baths, and Metallic Bedsteads. The stock of each is at once the largest, newest, and most varied ever submitted to the public, and marked at prices proportionate with those that have tended to make his Establishment the most distinguished in this country.

Bedsteads, from 12s. 6d. to £20 0s. each.
Shower Baths, from 8s. 0d. to £6 0s. each.
Lamps (Moderator) from 6s. 0d. to £3 10s. each.
(All other kinds at the same rate.)

Pure Colza Oil 4s. 0d. per gallon.

THE PERFECT SUBSTITUTE for SILVER.—The REAL NICKEL SILVER, introduced

more than thirty years ago by WILLIAM S. BURTON, when PLATED by the patent process of Messrs. Elkington and Co., is beyond all comparison the very best article next to sterling silver that can be employed as such, either usefully or ornamentally, as by no possible test can it be distinguished from real silver.

A small useful set, guaranteed of first quality for finish and durability, as follows:—

	Fiddle or Old Silver Pattern	Bead Pattern	Thread or Bruns-wick Pattern	King's or Lily, &c.
12 Table Forks	£ s. d. 1 13 0	£ s. d. 2 0 0	£ s. d. 2 4 0	£ s. d. 2 10 0
12 Table Spoons	1 13 0	2 0 0	2 4 0	2 10 0
12 Dessert Forks	1 4 0	1 10 0	1 12 0	1 15 0
12 Dessert Spoons	1 4 0	1 10 0	1 12 0	1 15 0
12 Tea Spoons	0 16 0	1 0 0	1 2 0	1 5 0
6 Egg Spoons, gilt bowls	0 10 0	0 12 0	0 12 0	0 13 6
2 Sauce Ladles	0 6 0	0 8 0	0 8 0	0 9 0
1 Gravy Spoon	0 6 6	0 9 0	0 10 0	0 11 0
2 Salt Spoons, gilt bowls	0 3 4	0 4 0	0 4 0	0 4 6
1 Mustard Spoon, gilt bowl	0 1 8	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 3
1 Pair Sugar Tongs	0 2 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 4 0
1 Pair Fish Carvers	1 4 0	1 10 0	1 10 0	1 10 0
1 Butter Knife	0 2 6	0 4 0	0 5 6	0 6 0
1 Soup Ladle	0 10 0	0 12 0	0 16 0	0 17 0
1 Sugar Sifter	0 3 3	0 4 6	0 4 6	0 5 0
Total	9 19 9	12 9 0	13 9 6	14 17 3

Any article to be had singly at the same prices. An oak chest to contain the above, and a relative number of knives, &c., 2l. 15s. Tea and Coffee Sets, Dish Covers and Corner Dishes, Cruet and Liqueur Frames, &c., at proportionate prices. All kinds of re-plating done by the patent process.

WILLIAM S. BURTON, GENERAL FURNISHING IRONMONGER, by appointment to

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, sends a CATALOGUE gratis, and post paid. It contains upwards of 500 Illustrations of his illimitable Stock of Sterling Silver and Electro Plate, Nickel Silver and Britannia Metal Goods, Dish Covers, Hot-water Dishes, Stoves, Fenders, Marble Chimney-pieces, Kitchen Ranges, Lamps, Gaseliers, Tea Trays, Urns, and Kettles, Clocks, Table Cutlery, Baths, Toilet Ware, Turnery, Iron and Brass Bedsteads, Bedding, Bed-room Cabinet Furniture, &c., with Lists of Prices, and plans of the Twenty large Show-Rooms, at 39, Oxford-street, W.; 1, 1a, 2, 3, and 4, Newman-street; 4, 5, and 6, Perry's-place; and 1, Newman-yard London.

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PAPER AND ENVELOPE MAKERS.—THE LARGEST AND CHEAPEST STOCK IN THE KINGDOM.

Carriage paid to the Country on Orders over Twenty Shillings. Illustrated Price List post-free.

Useful Cream-laid Note	2s. 0d. per Ream.	Super Thick Cream-laid Envelopes ..	4s. 6d. per 1,000
Superfine Thick ditto	3s. 0d. „	Large Blue Office ditto	4s. 6d. „
Superfine Blue Foolscap	6s. 6d. „	Best Black-bordered ditto	1s. 0d. per 100.

SERMON PAPER, plain, 3s. 6d.; ditto, ruled, 4s. 6d. per ream.

P. and Co.'s Universal System of Copy Books, with beautifully-engraved Headings, good paper, copies set, 1s. 4d. per dozen, or 15s. per gross; "School Pens," 1s. per gross; School Penholders, 1s. 6d. per gross; Slate Pencils, 100 in box, 6d.; Straw Paper, 1s. 9d. per ream. Good Copy Books, 40 pages, 2s. per doz., or 21s. per gross.

FOR STAMPING. Crest Dies Engraved 6s. Business Dies from 3s. 6d.

PARTRIDGE and COZENS, No. 1, Chancery-lane, and 192, Fleet-street, E.C.

FURNISH YOUR HOUSE WITH THE BEST ARTICLES

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DEANE'S.

DEANE'S—Celebrated Table Cutlery, every variety of style and finish.
DEANE'S—Electro-plated Spoons and Forks, best manufacture, strongly plated.
DEANE'S—Electro-plate Tea and Coffee Sets, Liqueur Stands, Cruets, Cake Baskets, &c.
DEANE'S—Dish Covers and Hot-water Dishes. Prices of Tin Dish Covers in sets, 18s., 30s., 40s., 63s., 78s.
DEANE'S—Papier Maché Tea Trays in sets, from 21s., new and elegant patterns constantly introduced.
DEANE'S—Bronzed Tea and Coffee Urns, with Loysell's and other patent improvements.
DEANE'S—Copper and Brass Goods, Kettles, Stew and Preserving Pans, Stockpots, &c.
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DEANE'S—Fenders and Fire-irons, in all modern and approved patterns.
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CANDLES. Prize Medal. PARAFFINE

Adopted by Her Majesty's Government for the Military Stations.

J. C. & J. FIELD,

The original Manufacturers, and holders of the 1862 Prize Medal, caution the public against any spurious imitations. Their label is on all Packets and Boxes.

Sold by all Dealers throughout the Kingdom. Wholesale and for exportation at the Works, Upper Marsh, Lambeth, London, S., where also may be obtained their celebrated United Service Soap Tablets.

FIELD'S CELEBRATED

UNITED SERVICE SOAP TABLETS,

4d. and 6d. each, sold by all Chandlers and Grocers throughout the Kingdom; but the Public should ask for FIELD'S, and see that the name of J. C. and J. FIELD is on each Packet, Box, and Tablet.

Wholesale and for Exportation at the Works, Upper Marsh, Lambeth, London, S., where also may be obtained their Prize Medal Paraffine Candles.

HEADACHE, INDIGESTION, &c., arising from over-indulgence in either eating or drinking, may be effectually cured by taking two or three of PARR'S LIFE PILLS. May be had for a trifle of any chemist.

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BY HER MAJESTY'S ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.

WHITE'S MOC-MAIN PATENT

LEVER TRUSS, requiring no steel spring round the body, is recommended for the following peculiarities and advantages:—1st. Facility of application; 2nd. Perfect freedom from liability to chafe or excoriate; 3rd. It may be worn with equal comfort in any position of the body, by night or day; 4th. It admits of every kind of exercise without the slightest inconvenience to the wearer, and is perfectly concealed from observation.

"We do not hesitate to give to this invention our unqualified approbation; and we strenuously advise the use of it to all those who stand in need of that protection, which they cannot so fully, nor with the same comfort, obtain from any other apparatus or truss as from that which we have the highest satisfaction in thus recommending."—*Church and State Gazette.*

Recommended by the following eminent Surgeons:—William Ferguson, Esq., F.R.S., Professor of Surgery in King's College, Surgeon to King's College Hospital, &c.; C. G. Guthrie, Esq., Surgeon to the Royal Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital; W. Bowman, Esq., F.R.S., Assistant-Surgeon to King's College Hospital; T. Callaway, Esq., Senior Assistant-Surgeon to Guy's Hospital; W. Coulson, Esq., F.R.S., Surgeon to the Magdalen Hospital; T. Blizard Curling, Esq., F.R.S., Surgeon to the London Hospital; W. J. Fisher, Esq., Surgeon-in-Chief to the Metropolitan Police Force; Aston Key, Esq., Surgeon to Prince Albert; Robert Liston, Esq., F.R.S.; James Luke, Esq., Surgeon to the London Truss Society; Erasmus Wilson, Esq., F.R.S. and many others.

A descriptive Circular may be had by post and the Truss which cannot fail to fit) can be forwarded by post, on sending the circumference of the body, two inches below the hips, to the Manufacturer.

Mr. WHITE, 228, PICCADILLY, LONDON.
Price of a Single Truss, 16s., 21s., 26s. 6d., and 31s. 6d. Postage, 1s.

Price of a Double Truss, 31s. 6d., 42s., and 52s. 6d. Postage 1s. 6d.

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Post-office Orders to be made payable to John White, Post Office, Piccadilly.

NEW PATENT

ELASTIC STOCKINGS, KNEE-CAPS, &c

The material of which these are made is recommended by the faculty as being peculiarly elastic and compressible, and the best invention for giving efficient and permanent support, in all cases of WEAKNESS, and swelling of the LEGS, VARICOSE VEINS, SPRAINS, &c. It is porous, light in texture, and inexpensive, and is drawn on like an ordinary stocking Price 4s. 6d., 7s. 6d., 10s., to 16s. each. Postage 6d.

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JOSEPH GILLOTT, METALLIC PEN-MAKER

to the QUEEN, begs to inform the Commercial World, Scholastic Institutions, and the Public generally, that, by a novel application of his unrivalled Machinery for making Steel Pens, he has introduced a NEW SERIES of his useful productions which, for EXCELLENCE of TEMPER, QUALITY of MATERIAL, and, above all, CHEAPNESS in PRICE, must ensure universal approbation, and defy competition.

Each Pen bears the impress of his name as a guarantee of quality; they are put up in boxes containing one gross each, with label outside, and the fac-simile of his signature.

At the request of numerous persons engaged in tuition, J. G. has introduced his WARRANTED SCHOOL and PUBLIC PENS, which are especially adapted to their use, being of different degrees of flexibility, and with fine, medium, and broad points, suitable for the various kinds of Writing taught in Schools.

Sold Retail by all Stationers and Booksellers. Merchants and Wholesale Dealers can be supplied at the Works, Graham-street, Birmingham; at 91, John-street, New York; and at 37, Gracechurch-street, London.

PRIZE MEDAL AWARDED, 1862.

LADIES BELTS.—The increasing demand for these supports has caused W. H. BAILEY to devote particular care to their manufacture. They are made of various qualities and prices, to suit all who are suffering from the complaints incidental to females. Prices, 15s., 21s., 31s. 6d. and 42s.

ELASTIC STOCKINGS, KNEE CAPS, and SOCKS, for Varicose Veins.

TRUSSES of the most improved description from 10s. 6d. each.

W. H. Bailey and Sons, Surgical Instrument Maker, 418, Oxford-street, London.

"I WISH I HAD WAITED!"

"This is so much nicer than the one I have!" is the exclamation of every one who has bought any of the CHEAP IMITATIONS of Harper Twelvetees' Universal Clothes Wringer (Ives' Patent). This excellent Machine will wring Blankets, Counterpanes, Sheets, &c., easier, quicker, and more thoroughly than by the ordinary old-fashioned wringing and clothes-destroying process. Sold by Harper Twelvetees' Agents everywhere. Price Thirty Shillings, Carriage free from the Manufactory, Bromley-by-Bow, London, E., if a Post-office order be forwarded for the amount.

SIXPENCE PER DAY!

The saving of this sum for TEN WEEKS will purchase one of HARPER TWELVETREES' UNIVERSAL CLOTHES WRINGERS, and the saving of Clothes more than pay for it in a few months. This wonderful little Machine will wring all kinds of Clothes, from a Counterpane to a collar, without injuring them in the least, besides being a great saver of time, strength, and muscle. Price 30s., Carriage free from the Manufactory, Bromley-by-Bow, London, E., if a Post-office order be forwarded for the amount.

IMPORTANT TO FAMILIES.

The Author of "Christian Philosophy" and numerous other works which are in circulation in both Hemispheres, referring to the efficient and economical WASHING MACHINE manufactured by HARPER TWELVETREES, says that by its use a month's wash is got through in five hours and a half, and the clothes are much more thoroughly cleansed than by the old method. The size suited for a small family cost only 50s., with all the latest improvements: larger sizes 60s., 75s. HARPER TWELVETREES' UNIVERSAL CLOTHES WRINGER (Ives' Patent) for 80s. Manufactory, Bromley-by-Bow, London, E.

JUST TWENTY MINUTES.

This is the time required for boiling clothes when HARPER TWELVETREES' GLYCERINE SOAP POWDER is used. A week's Washing may thus be accomplished in a few hours, and in many cases before breakfast, by which the usual annoyance and inconvenience of the dreaded "Washing Day" is altogether avoided. The Clothes are thoroughly cleansed, and scarcely any rubbing required. Sold by Grocers and Druggists everywhere. Patentees, Harper Twelvetees, Bromley-by-Bow, London.

"A PENNY SAVED IS A PENNY GAINED."

The truth of this well-known proverb may be realised by purchasing a PENNY PACKET of HARPER TWELVETREES' GLYCERINE SOAP POWDER, by which a saving is obtained of one-half of time, two-thirds of soap, and three-fourths of labour. This is the best Washing preparation ever offered to the public, and all who have tried it testify to its cleansing and economical qualities. Manufactory, Bromley-by-Bow, London.

A SOFT SKIN.

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